**A-level Chemistry Revision Strategy**

1. **Traffic light your Personal Learning Checklist:**

* **green** = really confident on this
* **amber** = I’m not fully confident on this yet (still need to revise)
* **red** = I know nothing of this (revision priority)

1. **Consolidate your knowledge – retrieval practise using flashcards (red/amber areas first):**

* Key word/question on one side and definition/answer on the reverse.
* Use the PLC to decide make the questions.
* Use the Kerboodle textbook, your notes or lesson PowerPoints to find the answers.
* Shuffle the cards so that they are in a random order (interleaved).
* Test yourself repeatedly and only discard the cards from the pack once you have got it correct at least 3 times.

1. **Test your knowledge using:**

* Practice Questions from the Kerboodle textbook and CGP workbook.
* Tests and exam questions that you have done for c/w or h/w.
* Past exam questions from physics and maths tutor -<https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/chemistry-revision/a-level-ocr-a/>

1. **Establish where and why you have lost marks in the exam questions:**

* Mark your answers using the mark scheme.
* Use FUMS to analyse your errors (F = fact you got wrong, U = understanding of concept, M = misread the question, S = skill area).

**6. Consolidating, refining, extending and building confidence:**

* **Go back to step 1 and repeat** the process - keep doing this until there is no red left!
* **Set a timer when you do exam questions** so that you get used to answering them in a limited amount of time – there is only 1 minute 12 seconds per mark in the real exams!
* **Be strict with yourself!** Don’t cheat when practising exam questions – stick to the time and don’t use your notes/mark schemes until you have finished. This is the only way that you will be able to identify what you can/can’t do and so know what you need to work on.

1. **Work on your weak areas:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Reason for lost marks:** | **Action:** |
| **F**  **fact I got wrong** | Make and use **flashcards** to test your recall of knowledge.  Remember **little and often** is the best approach – the more times you revisit a topic the better you will remember it. |
| **U**  **understanding** | * Read the section of the **textbook**. * Review the lesson PowerPoint or video if there is one. * Watch the **MaChemGuy video**. Find the correct video from the index at the link below -   <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MFgkCts2xGSOx5f07v0K_ejKMpli04nNNsCq3jDDVwE/edit> |
| **M**  **misread the question** | * **Read questions twice** before you start to answer them. * **Circle command words** (state, describe, explain etc.) and key pieces of information. * If the question was a calculation, make sure that you have **annotated the equation** with the information. |
| **S**  **skill area** | * **Practical skills** – there are **MaChemGuy** videos on all of the required practicals (see index) and the **Royal Society of Chemistry** has put together **videos** for the key techniques –   <https://edu.rsc.org/resources/practical-videos-16-18-students/4012343.article>   * **Maths skills** – this is all about **practise**! MaChemGuy has lots of ‘walk through’ videos on calculations and practise as many questions as you can. Don’t be tempted to look at the mark scheme/answers until you have finished – it will not help you to improve! * **Application and analysis** – again, this is about practise, not panicking when you see something unfamiliar (remember it is supposed to be unfamiliar!) and making sure that you understand what the question is asking you to do – look up any words that you don’t understand. Watch the MaChemGuy walk through videos and practise lots of questions. * **Ask us**! If you are struggling with a skill area let us know so that we can plan this into the lessons and the tasks we set. Use email or SMHW to message us – often we can help you to understand a problem very quickly so that you can move on. |