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Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Year 7 Study Skills

We are excited to inform you about a school-based initiative to improve students' knowledge and understanding of revision/retrieval practice: The Hungerhill Study Skills Programme! Prior to creating the study skills booklet, the school undertook a project to explore a number of highly effective strategies that can be used by students to enhance learning, centred around embedding knowledge and also preparing for assessments. Our vision is for all students to be familiar with each strategy and be able to utilise them to aid their learning. While revision is often associated with students in KS4, it is essential that all students across the school have the ability to revisit prior learning to ensure that information can be recalled when required. This means that by the time students are preparing for their GCSE exams, they can use the strategies effectively to revise and embed their learning. In addition, we aim to provide parents with an insight into how students are being encouraged to use Study Skills, allowing parents/carers to assist and support students with their studies.

Years 8 to 11 have been using the study skills booklet for a year now. With the Year 7 high stakes assessment window opening this week, we felt this was the perfect time to introduce the programme and booklet to this year group. In science lessons over the next two weeks, all Year 7 students will be provided with a Study Skills booklet – this is an A4 document that contains details on why retrieval/revision strategies are so important, example documents and recommendations on how students can plan their own programme of study. Students will be required to keep them in their bag every day for use in form time and lessons. Please do ask your child to see the booklet – we are very proud of it!

Information on the Study Skills programme can be found on the website:

<https://www.hungerhillschool.com/page/?title=Study+Skills+and+Retrieval&pid=412>. This should provide parents/carers with an insight into how students are being encouraged to use Study Skills, allowing you to assist and support students with their studies. There are links to short sets of slides at the bottom of the website page which summarise each revision strategy and give parents/carers information on how you can use these best with your child in the run up to high stakes assessments and to support their learning in general.

In the weeks approaching each high stakes assessment, it is important that students use the revision strategies and the booklet as a whole to support their revision. Year 7 students will have the opportunity to engage with all aspects of the study skills programme over the year, so they are able to become effective independent learners.

We hope you find the information useful in further supporting your child's learning. Should you have any questions about the information above, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Hancock using the 'Contact Us' facility on our website.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Hancock
Assistant Head Teacher: Personal Development

