

# Exams MADE Easy

## Powerful Revision Strategies

A two-hour interactive workshop that equips students with a wide range of practical and relevant strategies that they can use in their studies and revision. This workshop will encourage students to identify specific areas for improvement and then apply the most appropriate revision techniques for bridging the gaps in their understanding.

### RATIONALE

Revision strategies are the activities necessary to prepare for and take exams, including self-testing, time management, memorising and retrieval. McCabe (2011) showed that most students are unfamiliar with existing revision strategies that could enhance performance, suggesting that training students in applied learning and memory would benefit their metacognitive judgement. We aim to bridge this gap by equipping your students with an in-depth range of thinking skills covering key aspects of revision and exam preparation. This two-hour workshop allows students to both learn and apply the strategies for themselves, leaving them feeling empowered to master their own revision. A systematic review of meta-analyses found that students' attainment is higher when they employ a strategic approach to learning (Schneider & Preckel, 2017). Therefore, it is essential to prioritise the development of effective revision strategies for students, in order to help them achieve their academic goals. The skills learnt within this workshop will allow your students to plan and implement their revision in an efficient and successful manner.

**The average impact of metacognition and self-regulation strategies is an additional seven months' progress over the course of a year.**

EEF Toolkit

### OBJECTIVES

- To learn and master a range of effective revision strategies.
- To build confidence in their own abilities and potential.
- To increase motivation to study and revise.
- To know how to use revision time efficiently.
- To identify at least one new revision strategy that will be incorporated into their revision plan.

## SKILLS taught and their BENEFITS

**Benchmarking** is an analytical process aimed at helping students to measure their progress and attainment across multiple areas of study. It enables students to then prioritise their efforts accordingly.

**Active Reading** involves more than simply reading a text - it involves questioning, reflecting, and evaluating the information presented in the text. With this skill, your students will become focused and proficient readers.

**Mind Mapping** is used to visually organise information within a hierarchy, showing relationships between topics and ideas, which can help students better understand and remember the material.

**The Memory Palace** is a technique that taps into a person's natural ability to remember places; their spatial memory. Developed by the ancient Greeks, this strategy is considered to be one of the most powerful tools for memorisation.

**Revision Planning** is essential for effective study. Students will learn how to apply Spaced Learning and the Leitner System to make the most of their time.

**Cue Cards** are useful tools for memorisation, as they encourage students to condense and filter information, which can improve understanding and retention.

**79% of students found that they were "more confident in their ability to revise for their exams".**

*Survey from 1200 students conducted by Greater Manchester Higher on MADE Training.*

### OUTCOMES

By the end of the workshop, your students will have:

- Identified which revision techniques work best for them and understood how to use these in their revision plan.
- Improved their memory skills and metacognitive abilities.
- Gained confidence in their own abilities and potential.
- Increased motivation and reduced stress levels connected to revision and exams.
- Developed a positive attitude towards revision, exam preparation and independent studies.

**GATSBY Benchmarks: 3,6**  
**NERUPI Framework: Practise**  
**PSHE Core: Living in the wider world**

*Statutory Guidance, Curriculum and Frameworks*