



Find Your Future

Pride

Respect

Success

Assessment Information

**Autumn Term 2025
Year 7 Edition**

Key information for
parents/carers and students
about Learning Cycle 1



Year 7

The Learning Cycles

Year 7 - Autumn Term



Learn

Students are taught new content during their lessons. Teachers will regularly check understanding and set specific homework tasks to support learning.

Assess

Students sit standardised assessments in their lessons to check their knowledge of the content studied across the learning cycle, and relevant prior learning.

Improve

Gaps in learning identified from the assessments sat by students will be re-taught by teachers and students will be given the opportunity to undertake specific activities to improve.

Learn

8th Sept - 19th Dec

Assess

5th – 16th Jan

Improve

26th Jan – 5th Feb

Year 7 Progress Evening

Save the Date

Thursday 26th
February 2026

Find out how to support your child with assessments



Supporting Your Child



Year 7 - Autumn Term

The Core Four

At Penrice, students learn four simple revision strategies that we call **The Core Four**:

Brain Dumps | Mind Maps | Flash Cards | Quizzing

These help students build confidence, remember key knowledge, and become more independent learners.

Brain Dump



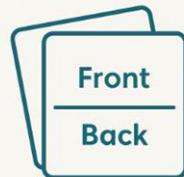
Brain Dump

Students recall everything they can without notes, then check and add any missed points in a different colour.

How you can help:

Ask them to talk through their brain dump with you or explain what they added afterwards.

Flashcards



Flash Cards

Simple is best. One question on the front, the answer on the back.

How you can help:

Test them for five minutes - little and often is more effective than long sessions.

Mind Maps



Mind Maps

Students put the topic in the middle of the page, then build out the key ideas using words, diagrams or colour.

How you can help:

Ask them to describe the five most important parts of their mind map.

Quizzing



Quizzing

Students practise key knowledge using cover-and-answer, online quizzes, or by making a 10-question test.

How you can help:

Ask them to complete a short quiz or help them create one.

Want to learn more?

[**Click here to access the resources**](#)

How to support at home

- Encourage short, regular revision sessions
- Test them with flash cards or quick-fire questions
- Ask them to “teach you” what they’ve learned
- Celebrate small wins — confidence grows step by step



Find out what is being covered in this cycle



Year 7 - Autumn Term

What to Revise

What do you need to know about?		RAG	
Grammatical terminology			
Literary techniques including simile, metaphor, polysyndeton, expanded noun phrases and sensory imagery.			
Structural techniques including Freytag's pyramid structure for narrative writing			
October, October and the characterisation of the narrator			
Ambitious vocabulary for narrative writing (use of the 5 senses, interesting verbs and adjectives)			
Descriptive methods for narrative writing(similes, personification, metaphors etc)			
Structural methods to develop tension in narrative writing			
Accurate range of punctuation (A . , ' ! ? ; ; -)			
Accurate range of sentence types and sentence openers			
How to plan and write an effective narrative			

Five top tips for revising

1.	Use your knowledge organiser to make flashcards to learn key information, vocabulary and methods. Use these to test yourself and get other people to test you.
2.	Practise planning and writing short narratives. Use a range of vocabulary, methods and structural features.
3.	Your English book is full of strategies, great ideas and examples – use it! Read through your notes and use them to help make your flashcards, to write your practice pieces and check any misconceptions.
4.	Discuss <i>October, October</i> with a friend and re-read any chapters that you are unfamiliar with.
5.	Revise little and often (15-20 minutes) will help make the knowledge stick!

Year 7 - Autumn Term

What to Revise

What topics do you need to know about?	Sparx Code	RAG
Averages - Mean, Mode, Median and Range	M328,M934, M841,M940	
Stem and Leaf diagrams	M648, M210	
Frequency Polygons	U840	
Averages from frequency tables	M127, M287	
Adding and Subtracting negative numbers	M106	
Multiplying and Dividing negative numbers	M288	
Commutative Law	M952	
Associative Law	M409	
Distributive Law	M637	
Order of Operations	M521	
Division and Rooting	M135	
Forming and Simplifying Expression	M795	
Multiplying terms	M531	
Expanding single brackets	M237	
Expanding more than one single bracket	M792	
Adding Decimals	M429	
Subtracting Decimals	M152	
Multiplying Decimals	M803	
Division with Decimals	M491	

Five top tips for revising

1. IDENTIFY key areas by using the RAG ratings – Which topics are you least confident in?
2. Pick ONE topic to improve at a time – Little & Often Revision!
3. IMPROVE your confidence in each topic, by using the “Independent Learning” tab on Sparx.
4. Work through the 3 question levels – Introduce / Strengthen / Deepen.
5. REFLECT on how well you understand each topic you complete, by updating your RAG ratings.

Year 7 - Autumn Term

What to Revise

What do you need to know about?	RAG
Sub cellular structures and functions of animal cell. Click here to be taken to the online revision resource	
How to use a microscope. Click here to be taken to the online revision resource	
Sub cellular structures and functions of plant cell. Click here to be taken to the online revision resource	
Changes in the body during female and male puberty Link here: Online Resource 1 and Online Resource 2	
Scientific variable definitions, identification and application to practicals. Independent variable, dependent variable and control variables. Click here to be taken to the online revision resource	
Chromatography and its uses in separating inks. Click here to be taken to the online revision resource	
Definition of atoms, elements, compounds and mixtures. Click here to be taken to the online revision resource	
Definitions and examples of renewable energy. Click here to be taken to the online revision resource	
Definitions and examples of non-renewable energy. Click here to be taken to the online revision resource	
Energy stores and transfers. Click here to be taken to the online revision resource	
Graph skills. Click here to be taken to the online revision resource	

Five top tips for revising

1.	Create mind maps using the above links and your own knowledge.
2.	Create flash cards.
3.	Create quizzes to test your memory.
4.	Brain dumps- writing down everything that you remember about a topic.
5.	Exam questions - Use the independent learning section of Sparx Science to choose topics to answer questions on. Alternatively ask your class teacher for some exam style questions.

Year 7 - Autumn Term

What to Revise

	What do you need to know about?	RAG
	Key Phonics for French: Click here to be taken to the revision resource	
	Key Phonics for Spanish: Click here to be taken to the revision resource	
Key vocabulary	Greetings and saying your name	
	Age and birthdays: numbers to 31, days and months	
	Stationery items	
	Pets	
	Family members	
	Descriptions: hair and eyes (to have)	
	Descriptions: personality (to be)	
	A typical day – common activities and sequencing words	
Grammar points	Regular verbs in the present tense	
	The irregular verbs 'to have' and 'to be'	
	Adjectives	
	Genders of nouns	

Top tips for Revision

Make sure you revise the following vocabulary and grammar topics. You can use your Knowledge organiser or look for the vocab lists and grammar videos on This is School. Make sure you use a range of strategies to memorise vocab, including self-testing, look-cover-write-check and flashcards.

Year 7 - Autumn Term

What to Revise

What do you need to know about?		RAG		
Lesson	What I need to know and be able to do			
Autumn 1 – 1	Understand different types of geography and how each one helps us study places.			
Autumn 1 – 2	Know what “local place” means and how local, national and global places compare.			
Autumn 1 – 3	Describe settlement types and how our local area has changed over time.			
Autumn 1 – 4	Describe who lives in our local area (population and demographics).			
Autumn 1 – 5	Explain population and job differences, job types and future employment trends.			
Autumn 1 – 6	Understand key weather features, why Cornwall is sunny, how wind forms and how rainfall works.			
Autumn 1 – 7	Explain where the UK’s weather comes from and how winter and summer weather changes.			
Autumn 1 – 8	Explain biotic vs abiotic, roles in ecosystems, and create food chains/webs.			
Autumn 1 – 9	Understand fieldwork: data types, enquiry questions, hypotheses, analysis and evaluation.			
Autumn 2 – 1	Describe what biomes are and their key features.			
Autumn 2 – 2	Explain how the Hadley cell affects rainfall and rainforest locations.			
Autumn 2 – 3–4	Describe how nutrients and carbon move in the rainforest and why rainforests store more carbon.			
Autumn 2 – 5	Understand why rainforests are valuable and causes/effects of deforestation.			
Autumn 2 – 6	Explain how climate shapes hot deserts and how plants, animals and people adapt.			

Year 7

What to Revise

What do you need to know about?

RAG

The Battle of Hastings – causes of Harold's defeat

Preparations

Leadership and tactics

Differences in army composition

Luck

The Changes and Continuities in Britain from the Iron Age to Norman England.

Social and Cultural Life

Religion

Authority

William's Control

Significance of Castles

Violence

The Feudal System

Legitimacy (through Religion)

Five top tips for revising

1. Use Mind Maps for Big Picture Revision.
2. Use timelines to understand the chain of cause and consequence.
3. Remember, you need a good overall understanding, specific details are additional. For these use flashcards.
4. Warning – sensitive viewers may need parental supervision for the following clips.
5. [Click here to be taken to the online revision resource](#)

Year 7 - Autumn Term

What to Revise

What do you need to know about?	RAG
The 7 Formal Elements of Art	
Observational Drawing	
What is Tone?	
How to achieve lighter and darker tones using a pencil	
Directional shading	
How a line drawing becomes a FORM	
Important facts about the artist Yellana James	
What is a continuous line drawing?	
Mark making techniques	
The Pointillism technique	
The style of the artist Naomi Christenson	
3 Oil Pastel Techniques	
Important Facts about the artist Courtney Mattison	
What is ceramics?	

Five top tips for revising

1. Refer to Knowledge Organiser set on Class charts.
2. Use revision time in lesson, to look through sketchbook and Do It Now Booklet, remembering key facts and information.
3. Recognise and remember the styles of the artists learnt.
4. Make a flash cards with 8 key facts – learn them and test yourself!
5. Write down or tell someone as much as you can about the Art keywords and definitions.

Year 7 - Autumn Term

What to Revise

What do you need to know about?	RAG
Health and safety – how to identify hazards Click here to be taken to the revision resource	
Identification of tools Click here to be taken to the revision resource	
Adhesives – bonding wood to wood Click here to be taken to the revision resource	
Mitre joints Click here to be taken to the revision resource	
Sustainable features of pine wood What is MDF and what does it stand for? Click here to be taken to the revision resource	

Five top tips for revising

1. Do a little bit of revision and repeat it often- small chunks.
2. Use the links provided to gather more research.
3. Use the class chart homework to test your knowledge.
4. Make flash cards to help you revise key facts.
5. Brain dumps – write down or tell someone as much as you about the topic in one minute.

Year 7 - Autumn Term

What to Revise

What do you need to know about?	RAG			
Pantomime conventions What do you expect to see in a pantomime?				
Stock Characters				
Physical Skills				
Vocal Skills				
Blocking				
Stage Directions				

Five top tips for revising

1. Focus on one topic at a time.
2. It is better to revise little and often.
3. You can make flash cards for each topic.
4. Use your knowledge from your 'Let's do it now' tasks.
5. Write down or tell someone as much as you can about the drama keywords and definitions.

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What to Revise

What do you need to know about?	RAG
How to use a bridge knife cut Click here to be taken to the revision resource	
How to use a claw knife cut Click here to be taken to the revision resource	
How to weigh dry ingredients Click here to be taken to the revision resource	
How to boil and simmer foods in liquid Click here to be taken to the revision resource	
How to make a cheesy vegetable bake. Recipe on class charts to practice.	

Five top tips for revising

1.	Do a little bit of revision and repeat it often- small chunks.
2.	Use the links provided to gather more research.
3.	Use the class chart recipe to trial it before your assessment at home.
4.	Make flash cards to help you revise key facts.
5.	Brain dumps – write down or tell someone as much as you can about the topic in one minute.

Year 7

What to Revise

What do you need to know about?	RAG			
Note Durations – Names and Symbols				
Instruments in the Woodwind Family				
Instruments in the String Family				
Instruments in the Brass Family				
Instruments in the Percussion Family				
Correct Singing Technique				
The words Dynamics, Texture, Pitch and Tempo				
Time Signatures and Bar Lines				

Five top tips for revising

1. Test yourself drawing the note symbols and rememebered the names.
2. Make flashcards to help you learn the key musical words.
3. Listen to an orchestra and see how many