



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

8<sup>th</sup> Sept - 19<sup>th</sup> Dec

## Assess

5<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> Jan

## Improve

26<sup>th</sup> Jan – 5<sup>th</sup> Feb

# Year 7 Progress Evening

## Save the Date

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>  
February 2026

Find out how to support your child with assessments



### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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



## What to Revise

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

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.

## What to Revise

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

## 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.



## What to Revise

What do you need to know about?		RAG		
Key Phonics for French: <a href="#">Click here to be taken to the revision resource</a>				
Key Phonics for Spanish: <a href="#">Click here to be taken to the revision resource</a>				
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.

### 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.			



## 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](#)

## What to Revise

What do you need to know about?	RAG		
The <b>7</b> 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 <b>Yellana James</b>			
What is a continuous line drawing?			
Mark making techniques			
The Pointillism technique			
The style of the artist <b>Naomi Christenson</b>			
3 Oil Pastel Techniques			
Important Facts about the artist <b>Courtney Mattison</b>			
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.

## What to Revise

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

## 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.

## 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.

### What to Revise

What do you need to know about?	RAG		
How to use a bridge knife cut <a href="#">Click here to be taken to the revision resource</a>			
How to use a claw knife cut <a href="#">Click here to be taken to the revision resource</a>			
How to weigh dry ingredients <a href="#">Click here to be taken to the revision resource</a>			
How to boil and simmer foods in liquid <a href="#">Click here to be taken to the revision resource</a>			
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.

## 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 remembered the names.
2. Make flashcards to help you learn the key musical words.
3. Listen to an orchestra and see how many