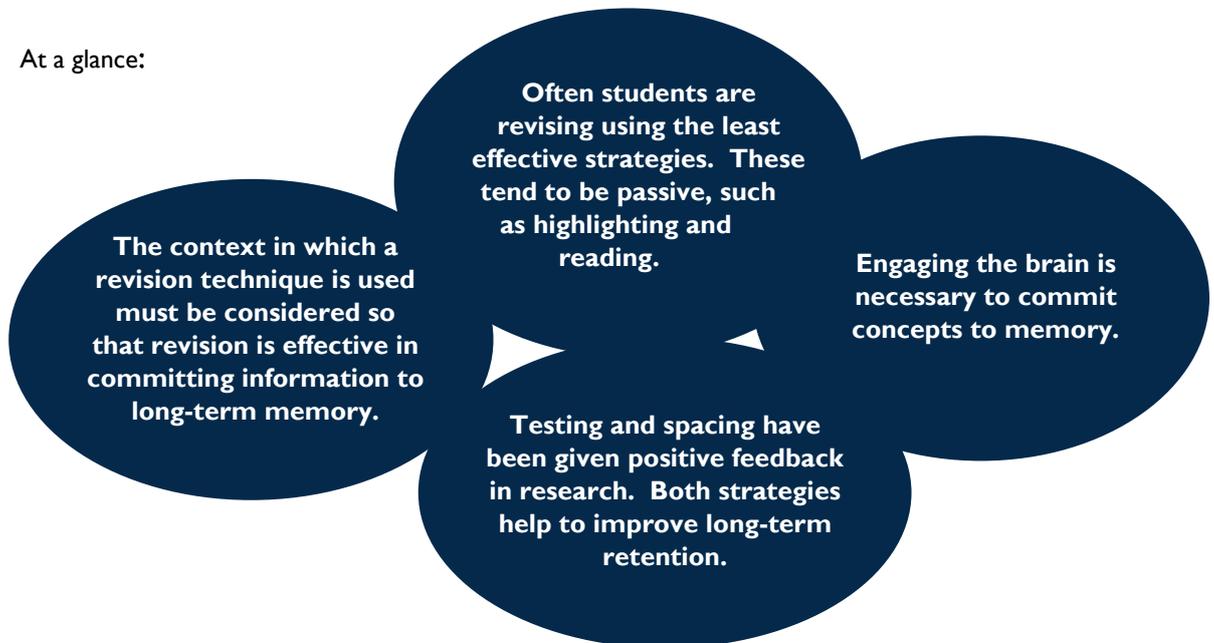


Effective Revision in Class and at Home

Dunlosky, J., Rawson, K.A., Marsh, E.J., Nathan, M.J. & Willingham, D.T. (2013) Improving Students Learning With Effective Learning Techniques: Promising Directions from Cognitive and Educational Psychology. *Psychological Science in the Public Interest* 14(1):4-58.

At a glance:



Key Information:

- Researchers looked at 10 learning techniques in detail, with students of different ages, abilities and prior knowledge. Techniques included: self-explanation, summarisation, highlighting, rereading, practice testing, distributed practice and interleaving.
- Amongst those tested, practice testing and distributed testing were found to be most effective. Whilst highlighting, rereading and summarising rated poorly in helping students to recall information.
- Often students report using the techniques that are rated low, so teachers should encourage and model use of more efficient techniques.

Ways that you can use this in your classroom today:

- In lessons: try using quizzes, practice questions and interleaving concepts so that students can make connections and learn from their mistakes. This is vital in enabling students to commit concepts to their long-term memory.
- Encourage students to: self-test, self-mark, elaborate, make connections, teach each other and avoid highlighting! Flash cards have also been shown to be really effective where they are used for testing.

Further Reading:

Busch, B. (2016) The Science of Revision: Nine Ways Pupils Can Revise For Exms More Effectively. [online] Available at: <http://www.theguardian.com/teacher-network/2016/apr/19/students-revise-exams-revision-science>

Creaby, C., Mouncey, K., Roskilly, K. (2018) Learning to Learn: Using Evidence to Enhance Knowledge Retention and Improve Outcomes. *Impact*

Hunton, J. (2017) The Role of Testing in Knowledge Retention. *Impact*