



## Soon After each lesson...

Apart from doing specific homework set, you should take the time to

- review the lesson
- read/take notes from the relevant section of your textbook
- carefully read through marked homework and complete your corrections
- prepare revision notes
- identify areas where you need further work or extra help
- consolidate ideas or extend your understanding by setting yourself extra questions

## Using a textbook to make notes

Your A level textbook is a resource to supplement class activities and notes. Get into the habit of reading through topics after they are covered in class (or beforehand if you know what is coming up next). During the induction period you will have a class exercise which suggests methods for skim reading and making notes. You need to *practise regularly* in order to develop your note-taking skills.

There is no perfect textbook - learn to consult alternative texts when you find a shortcoming in your main one.

## Working with classmates and friends

You may already have friends who do the same course. We hope you will quickly get to know other students. Your friends and classmates will provide an invaluable extra resource to help your learning. Discussing new ideas is an excellent way of absorbing and retaining them. *Copying* someone else's homework will not help you to learn yourself, but it is often useful to compare your work with others. Share insights after you have made your own best effort.

## Libraries

The Libraries have a range of textbooks and other books relevant to this subject. They also stock a good selection of magazines, CD-Roms, and videos which can help you deepen and broaden your understanding and knowledge.

## Workshops

There are sessions each week where you can get extra help with this subject from an experienced teacher outside lessons. Attend when you need to - but *plan in advance sensible objectives* for the session. You may want help with

- understanding a new concept
- part of the homework
- revision of a topic

Use practical Workshops to

- catch up on an important demonstration or class experiment missed
- practise a particular experimental technique
- gain extra time for your own investigation

Attendance at these needs to be booked in advance, through your teacher.

## Extracurricular science

To learn how science works in the real world, and to plan for higher education, it is important that you sometimes get outside the narrow diet of exam syllabus and assessment. We are lucky to live in London, where there are so many resources on our doorstep.

Watch the science noticeboards, which have information about:

- *Talking Science+* lectures here at the Centre
- Science-related competitions.
- Lectures for 6th formers or those for the general public. Arrange to go with a few friends.
- University Open Days

Worthwhile visits to make at weekends or during the holidays include the Science Museum, the Natural History Museum, and the Wellcome Centre for Medical Science. A complete guide to museums, libraries and places of scientific, technological and medical interest is the book **London Science**, available for browsing from the Science Office, AT10.

## The Goal

To be successful in higher education and afterwards, you will need to become a more independent learner. *This is the real point your two years at A level!*