



Using Flashcards Effectively: The Leitner System

The Leitner System is a method of organising flashcards so that harder topics are reviewed more often and easier topics less often. This encourages active recall and ensures Y11 pupils are focusing more on retrieval of key information they do not know, rather than spending time going over information they have already committed to memory.

In order to use this method effectively you will need three boxes or folders, individually labelled as: **Every Day, Tuesday & Thursday and Friday.**

Monday:

Review **all** flashcards.

Correct cards go to Tuesday & Thursday.

Incorrect or partly correct cards go to Every Day.

Tuesday:

Review **Every Day** and **Tuesday & Thursday** cards.

Correct cards move one box forward.

Incorrect cards go back to Every Day.

Wednesday:

Review only **Every Day** cards.

Correct cards move to Tuesday & Thursday.

Incorrect cards stay in Every Day.

Thursday:

Review **Every Day** and **Tuesday & Thursday** cards.

Correct cards move one box forward.

Incorrect cards go back to Every Day.

Friday:

Review **Every Day** and **Friday** cards.

Correct Friday cards stay in Friday.

Incorrect Friday cards go back to Every Day.



Important rules:

- Cards only move one box forward when correct
- Incorrect cards always return to **Every Day**
- Harder topics are reviewed more often, easier topics are revisited, but not as often because you already know them!

The table below includes a simple plan to ensure your flashcard use is as effective as possible, leading to marginal gains each week!

Day 	What to Revise 	What to Do 
Monday	 All flashcards	Sort cards: ✓ Right → Tuesday & Thursday ✗ Wrong → Every Day
Tuesday	 Every Day  Tuesday & Thursday	✓ Right → move forward ✗ Wrong → Every Day
Wednesday	 Every Day	Focus on tricky cards ✓ Right → Tuesday & Thursday
Thursday	 Every Day  Tuesday & Thursday	✓ Right → move forward ✗ Wrong → Every Day
Friday	 Every Day  Friday	✓ Friday cards stay ✗ Wrong → Every Day

Alongside using flashcards regularly at home, Year 11 pupils are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the range of Success Sessions available to them.

These include after-school Success Sessions during the week, Saturday Success Sessions, and Holiday Success Sessions, all of which provide extra time, expert guidance, and targeted support in key subjects.

Attending these sessions allows pupils to consolidate their learning, address gaps in knowledge, and build confidence in exam skills, helping to ensure they are in the best possible position to succeed in both their Mock and Final GCSE examinations.