



TuitionChoice presents

THE YEAR 13 GUIDE

The No-Nonsense Roadmap to Grades A/A*

STAY CONSISTENT · AIM HIGH

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Year 13.

The most important academic year you've faced so far — and the one where a proper plan matters more than in any year before it.

Everything you've learned across your AS content and Year 12 now gets tested in one intense, high-stakes window. The problem isn't that most students aren't capable of top grades. It's that they go into the year without a system — reacting to homework and mocks as they come, rather than working to a plan.

This guide gives you that plan: a clear, month-by-month timeline from September to exam season, so you always know exactly what you should be doing and why. No vague advice, no filler — just the system that actually gets students from a comfortable C to a genuine A or A*.

Follow it properly and you will:

- Stay ahead of your class, not behind it
- Avoid the last-minute panic that derails most students in March and April
- Maximise your chances of Grades A/A* across every subject

Contents

Everything in this guide builds towards one thing: a system you can actually follow, week after week, all the way to results day.

01	The Core Principle	What actually moves a grade
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The Core Principle

High grades are not about "working hard" in a vague sense. Hours alone don't move a grade.

They come from three things, applied consistently — not occasionally, not just before a mock, but every single week of the year.

01

Consistency

Small, regular sessions beat occasional marathon ones. A little, often, wins over a lot, rarely.

02

Exam Technique

Knowing exactly how marks are awarded — and lost — matters as much as knowing the content itself.

03

Targeted Practice

Spending your time on your weak topics, not the ones you're already comfortable with.

The takeaway: if you're doing all three of these, consistently, you don't need to worry about anything else in this guide. Everything from here is just detail on how to execute them properly.

Your Weekly Structure

Forget the clock. Time on its own means nothing.

One student can nail a topic in twenty minutes; another needs an hour on the exact same one — and both can be doing it right. What matters isn't how long you sat there. It's what you actually walked away with: what you've learned, and how many exam questions you've answered and marked.

So instead of timing yourself, track this every week, in every subject:



Maths

At least one topic properly covered, plus a full set of exam questions on it — aim for 20–30 questions across the week.



Sciences

One topic per subject worked through, with a batch of exam-style and extended-response questions attempted straight after.

Whatever you cover, every single time, it has to include all three of these — this is what actually makes something revision, rather than reading:

1

Learn It

Review or learn the content properly



2

Question It

Answer real exam-style questions



3

Mark It

Find exactly where marks were lost

If you've only done the first one, you haven't revised yet — you've just read.

The Golden Rule of the Year

If you remember nothing else from this guide, remember this.

FEBRUARY

All new content should be finished by **February** at the latest — **March** at the very latest if you're pushing it. After that point, there is no more new learning — only past papers, exam practice, and refinement.

BEFORE FEBRUARY

Learning new content, building understanding, closing gaps, sitting mocks, fixing what they reveal.

FROM FEBRUARY ONWARDS

Full past papers, timing, accuracy, and refinement. Nothing new — just getting sharper on what you already know.

If content still isn't covered by February, you are behind — and every week you spend learning something new after that is a week you're not spending on exam technique. March is the absolute cut-off; treat February as the deadline that actually matters.

The Month-by-Month Timeline

Year 13 isn't one long block of "revision." Each phase of the year has a different job. Here's what that job is, month by month — and how you'll know if you're actually doing it.

SEPTEMBER

Get In Front Of It

You're straight back into new content in every subject, building directly on last year's foundations — and the biggest mistake you can make right now is letting it pile up because "it's only September." Whatever's taught this week, go over it again that same week.

Maths: Pure content alongside Statistics and Mechanics, with a real stack of questions behind each. Sciences: build on Year 12 foundations with recall, diagrams, and practice questions — not re-reading.

On track if: nothing taught so far is left behind, and you've already answered real exam questions on it.

OCTOBER

Build Before the Gaps Show Up

Content is getting harder and moving faster. This is the month gaps quietly start forming if you're not paying attention — and they're far easier to fix now than in February.

Maths: into harder Pure topics, mixing these into practice rather than doing one at a time. Sciences: start linking topics together and get comfortable with longer, extended-response questions.

On track if: nothing from September or October has been left to rot, and you can attempt exam-style questions without freezing.

NOVEMBER

Start Thinking Like the Exam

Stop treating content and exam practice as two separate things. Every topic you learn from here needs to go straight into a real exam question, under real time pressure.

Maths: shift towards problem-solving, plus a short past paper section. Sciences: proper past paper questions, with close attention to exact exam wording and synoptic links.

On track if: timed conditions don't throw you off anymore, and you understand where marks are actually won and lost.

December — February

Mocks, the deadline, and momentum.

DECEMBER

Walk Into Mocks Prepared, Not Hopeful

Your mocks are only useful if you go in having already practised under real conditions — not hoping it'll click on the day.

Sit full past papers under proper timed conditions, more than once. Start a mistake log now — every single error gets written down, not just remembered. Across all subjects, get through several full past papers this month with real analysis afterwards.

On track if: you already know roughly where your weak spots are before the mocks even happen.

JANUARY

Your Mocks Just Told You Everything

Whatever came up in your mocks is the single most useful information you'll get all year. Your mock mistakes are effectively a checklist for your real exams. Don't waste them.

For every mistake: pin down exactly which topic it belongs to, go back and properly relearn it, then work through a solid batch of further questions until it's genuinely solid.

On track if: you can point to specific topics you were weak on in December and show real improvement on them now.

FEBRUARY

The Content Has to Be Finished

This is the deadline. Whatever hasn't been learned by the end of February becomes a problem — from here, there's no more room for new content, only practice.

Finish off the last topics in every subject, properly, not just touched on. Move fully into regular full past papers rather than topic-by-topic questions. If you're still learning new content after this month, you've lost time you needed for exam practice — and you won't get it back.

On track if: every topic across every subject has genuinely been covered.

March — June

The last safety margin, the practice, and holding your nerve.

MARCH

The Absolute Last Safety Margin

If everything wasn't finished by February, March is the very last window to close it out — not a second phase of learning. From here, there is genuinely no more room for anything new.

Finish off any last topics immediately, in the first week if at all possible. Move fully into regular full past papers rather than topic-by-topic questions for everything else.

On track if: every topic across every subject has genuinely been covered by the end of this month, with no exceptions.

APRIL

Everything Becomes Exam Practice

No new content from here. This month is entirely about doing papers, marking them properly, and fixing what they reveal.

For every paper: do it under real timed conditions, mark it properly against the actual mark scheme, go through every mistake and work out why it happened, then fix that specific weak area before the next paper.

On track if: your scores are genuinely moving upward week to week, and timing has stopped being a problem.

MAY — JUNE

Hold Your Nerve

Everything's in place now. This stretch isn't about learning anything new — it's about staying sharp and not panicking.

Keep the past papers going, but treat it as refinement, not relearning. Go back over your recurring mistakes one more time. Don't let anyone — including yourself — convince you to cram new content this late. It does more harm than good.

On track if: you're going into each exam calm and settled, not scrambling the night before.



A-Level Maths

How to get an A/A*.

- Practise questions daily — little and often beats occasional long sessions
- Attack weak topics aggressively rather than quietly avoiding them
- Learn mark scheme patterns, not just methods — know how marks are actually given

Priority topics: Pure (Algebra, Calculus, Trigonometry), Statistics, Mechanics.

Rule: if you can't do a question, learn it immediately — don't move on and hope it won't come up.

Target: 2,000+ exam questions completed by the exams. All major topics covered by February. Full papers weekly from February onwards.



A-Level Sciences

Biology, Chemistry, Physics — how to get an A/A*.

Biology

Understand the processes — don't just memorise the labels. Practise explaining ideas clearly, in your own words, in extended responses.

Chemistry

Learn equations and methods together, and practise calculations regularly rather than occasionally.

Physics

Understand formulas deeply enough to apply them to unfamiliar scenarios, not just recall them.

Practical Skills

Know each required practical inside out — apparatus, method, and sources of error. These come up directly in exam questions.

Synoptic Thinking

A-level exams pull together ideas from across the whole two years. Practise connecting topics, not just revising them in isolation.

Target: 1,000+ exam questions completed across the sciences, with regular extended-response practice and full papers from February onwards.

Grade C vs. Grade A/A*

Most schools are, understandably, aiming for the whole cohort to reach a solid pass. Top grades require something more.

What Schools Deliver

Large classes. A fixed pace that has to suit the whole room. Grade B–C, a solid pass, as the realistic target for most of the cohort.

What Grade A/A* Actually Takes

Deeper understanding, not just surface familiarity. Significantly more exam practice. Individual attention on your specific weak spots.

Schools teach large groups, follow a fixed pace, and simply cannot give every student that level of individual focus. That's not a criticism of schools — it's just the reality of teaching thirty students at once.

Why Most Students Fall Short

And how to make sure you're not one of them.

Most Students

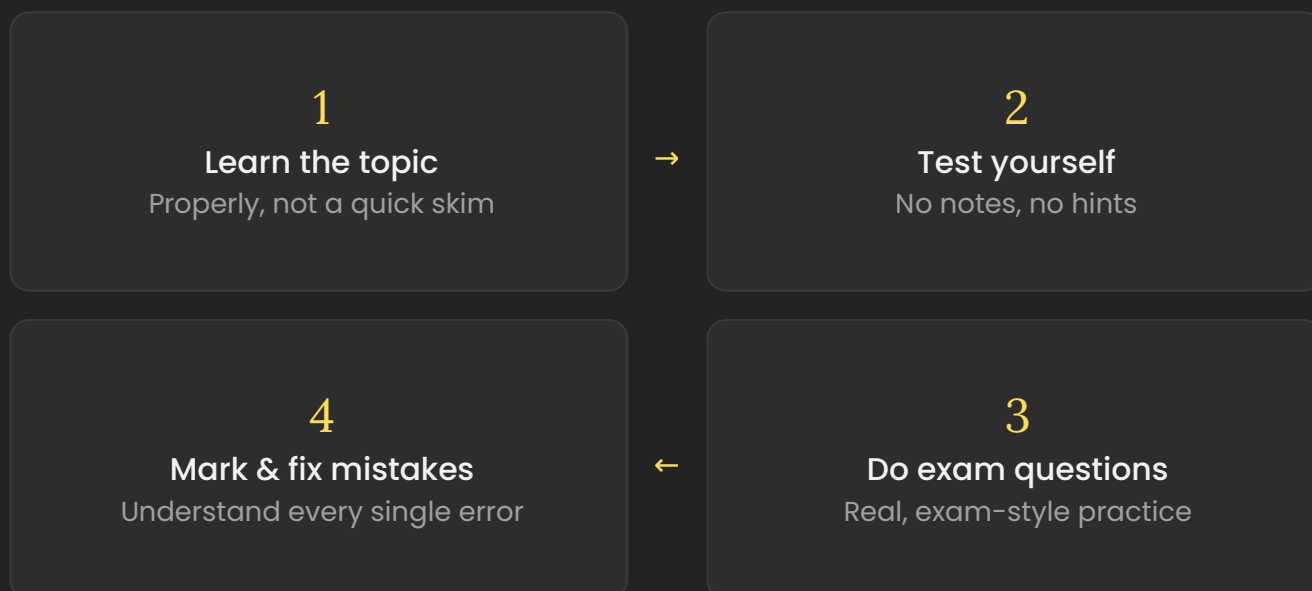
- Start too late
- Don't practise exam questions enough
- Never properly fix their weak areas — they note them and move on

Top Students

- Follow a system, like the one in this guide
- Stay consistent, week after week, even when it's not exam season
- Get targeted help where they need it

The Revision Loop

Use this, every time, for every topic. Then repeat.



This loop, done consistently, is worth more than any amount of passive reading.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Only reading notes, without doing practice questions
- Leaving revision too late in the year
- Ignoring weak topics because they're uncomfortable
- Not doing past papers until the last minute

Final Rules

Everything in this guide comes down to four things.

01

Be Consistent

Every single week — not just before mocks or exams.

02

Focus on Questions

Exam questions, not just content review.

03

Fix Mistakes Immediately

Not "eventually" — as soon as you find them.

04

Get Help When Needed

Don't struggle alone on something a bit of support could fix in a week.

Year 13 is simple if you follow a system. Most students don't fail because they're not smart enough — they fail because they don't have a plan and leave things too late. Now you do.

Why High-Level Students Get Tutoring

If you want Grades A/A*, on top of everything in this guide, this is what tips the balance.

Personalised feedback on your actual work. Targeted improvement on your specific weak topics. Advanced exam strategies beyond what's covered in class. This is exactly what tutoring provides — the difference between knowing what to do in theory, and having someone make sure you actually do it.



1-to-1 Expert Support

Every session built around you



Structured Weekly Plan

Followed consistently, all year



Continuous Feedback

On every piece of work you do

From Grade B/C to Grade A/A*

Not through more hours alone, but through hours spent in exactly the right place. Get in touch with Tuition Choice to build a personalised plan for the rest of your Year 13.



Follow this guide.
Stay consistent.
Aim for A/A*.

Year 13 is simple if you follow a system. Now you do.