

# **Mrs D's Recipe for Success!**

## **Before the Exam**

1. Make sure that you thoroughly know your stuff, which means all your notes and learning outcomes.
2. Make short summary notes that you can gloss over on the day of the exam to refresh your memory – use colour to highlight.

## **The morning of the Exam**

1. Eat as much breakfast as you can even if you are nervous. Having food in your stomach will help you concentrate.
2. Make sure you take water with you to prevent dehydration.

## **During the exam**

1. Keep as calm as possible. Remember the exam setters want you to do well and so will not be asking any trick questions.
2. Think of all the work you have done up to the exam. This is 'money in the bank' and will give you confidence.
3. Go in believing you will do well. A lack of confidence will cost you vital marks, but don't be over-confident, pay attention to detail!
4. **READ THE QUESTIONS CAREFULLY.** Look out for key words like **EXPLAIN, DESCRIBE, STATE** etc which ask for specific knowledge.
5. Check the mark allocation to tell you how many points to give in a descriptive answer or how many calculations are needed for a numerical question.
6. **ALL PUPILS WILL HAVE DIFFICULTY WITH SOME QUESTIONS** so don't panic. Read the question carefully, think about it for a few minutes jotting down a few ideas and if you are still stuck leave space, move on and forget about it!!!! Return later in the paper when you have a few more good questions under your belt.
7. Do not write off a whole question completely because you can't do part of it. Assume a sensible answer and use this in the next parts. You could still get **FULL MARKS** for these questions.
8. Don't attempt to do any calculations in your head. Write everything down. This makes it easier to check over later and may give you intermediate marks if your final answer is wrong.

9. Similarly write down all working for multiple choice questions and NEVER MISS ANY OF THESE OUT. Make educated guesses if you must!
10. If time allows check over thoroughly for missed questions, missing units, careless mistakes. You should not be sitting twiddling thumbs at the end of the paper. USE EVERY MINUTE PRODUCTIVELY.

**PLEASE COME AND SEE YOUR TEACHER IF YOU NEED ANY HELP.**