

## Working Memory

### What is it?

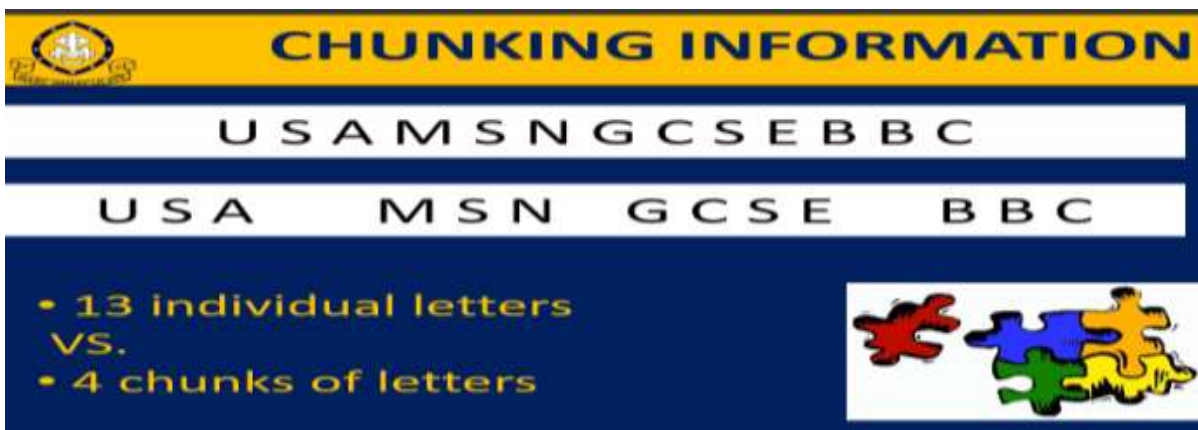
- Your working memory is half the size of your long term memory, therefore you need to store your working memory with useful information.
- Your working memory has limited space, and always needs work to improve.
- Working memory is essential for learning, making progress and development.

### How does it work?

- There are two types of working memory- auditory memory (listening) and visual spatial memory (what you see)
- Pupils listen to staff, their peers and what they watch during revision and this is stored short-term. To ensure that it is stored in pupils' working memory, the information they listen to may need to be played back to ensure that key information is stored.
- It is the same for visual-spatial memory. Pupils will read over their work, revision resources and websites; if it is only done once or twice, they will lose the information. Therefore, pupils have to consistently access and re-read the information to store it in their working memory and use it effectively.

### Why?

- By improving our working memory through revision, reading and practicing recalling knowledge- we become more effective learners.
- Improvements in working memory have shown that pupils perform better in a range of subjects, specifically Maths/Numeracy and English/Literacy.
- The use of reading, making memorable notes and mind-maps, and chunking information (where we break big pieces of information into smaller chunks to remember) are strategies that improve our working memory.



**CHUNKING INFORMATION**

U S A M S N G C S E B B C

U S A M S N G C S E B B C

- 13 individual letters
- VS.
- 4 chunks of letters

