

Dear Parent / Carer,

12th February 2025

Independent Learning – Key Stage 3

We are currently reviewing how pupils undertake independent learning and homework away from the classroom. Homework plays an essential role in supporting learning by helping to embed learning, review and revise previous learning and support with preparation for tests, examinations and assessments.

Following feedback from all stakeholders, we have put together the following which we will be trialling from Monday 24th February 2025:

- Subject leaders will communicate to parents/carers (via the parental curriculum document) with what the homework will look like for their subject for that half term. The homework will be meaningful and have a clear purpose.
- All Key Stage 3 pupils will receive an assembly on why homework is an essential part of their learning and they will also be shown how to use their planners correctly to record homework, along with examples.
- Initially, staff will check that pupils have written their homework into their planner in sufficient detail, along with the due date and how long should be spent on the homework.
- Staff will provide pupils with at least 4 school days to hand in their homework to ensure there is sufficient time for pupils to seek help if necessary.
- Staff will explain to pupils what help/support is available to them.

Planners

Central to the success of the independent learning update is the pupil planner. The pupil planner is key to ensure effective and swift communication between home and school and will provide detail on what homework needs to be completed and the due date.

As stated in the home to school agreement, we ask you to support your child in homework and any other opportunities for home learning. This may include looking in your child's planner to remind them about homework that is due in.

Homework Club

We are also launching homework club – this will be a quiet space in the library for pupils to sit and complete their homework during break and lunchtimes on a Wednesday and Friday. In Homework Club, pupils will be able to access resources such as laptops, revision guides and textbooks for support.

We are keen to encourage pupils to complete their homework/independent learning on time and to a good standard. Pupils who complete homework early may receive extra stamps from their class teacher. We do adopt a staged approach to sanctioning homework incompleteness which can be viewed in our behaviour policy.

We thank you for your support with your child's independent learning.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Yours faithfully,
Miss C. Maguiness
Senior Leader for Independent Learning