



# Independent Learning Guidance for Parents

Department: Science

Year Groups: 7-9

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## **Why is independent learning important in Science?**

In KS3 Science students are set homework tasks that consolidate the material covered in lessons or tasks that involve the preparation of material for future learning activities.

## **How will independent learning be set?**

Homework tasks make take the form of a worksheet, a research task or a longer term project depending upon which topic is being studied. Homework is set according to a regular timetable of which pupils are made aware. It will also be published on Fronter.

## **What expectations do staff have of the work being completed?**

All homework must be completed on time. If there are unforeseen circumstances at home that result in a student not being able to complete the homework, the parent should write a note in the planner to the teacher. The student will then be given an extension to the deadline.

Repeated late submission of homework will result in a departmental detention.

## **What help and support is available?**

All Science teachers are available on request at lunchtime to assist with specific homework tasks. There are a multitude of links on FRONTER to websites that can provide guidance on tasks. The ICT rooms are available during lunchtime in order for pupils to complete ICT based homework if they do not have this facility at home. Homework Club runs during lunchtimes in the Learning Support Room where Teaching Assistants can help with any homework.

### **What work can be completed in addition to the set tasks?**

If no specific homework is recorded in their planner by students, then they are expected to be reading around the subject or carrying out some research in preparation for future lessons. There are a multitude of links on FRONTER (Year 7 – Science, Year 8 – Science and Y9 Science) that enable students to undertake these activities and consolidate the material covered in lessons or undertake further extension activities. These include:-

- (1) An electronic workbook linking to the topics studied.
- (2) Powerpoint presentations and links to relevant websites with information on the topics studied.
- (3) A practical scientific skills workbook which students can use to work through independently e.g. designing tables and drawing valid graphs.