



# Brownhills Ormiston Academy

## Home Learning Parent Guide

We know that regular, meaningful and challenging home learning helps students to develop the knowledge and understanding required for successful lifelong learning. Home learning encourages self-organisation and self-discipline; as well as reinforcing, broadening and extending the curriculum. Crucially, home learning helps to develop revision and wider reading skills.

The Brownhills Ormiston Academy home learning policy has been reviewed to meet the needs of all students and students are required to complete home learning on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evening. The following details provide the information that parents/carers will need to support their child with home learning.

### Reading

Reading underpins everything that our students do in school. We want all BOA students to become competent and fluent readers who read a range of challenging texts. Reading is critical to developing broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures.

### Maths

Students are already used to using Hegarty Maths and have the log-ins required to access this excellent online tool that introduces material in videos that demonstrate skills through carefully explained examples. Students can watch the videos, make notes and complete quizzes on particular topics which test their understanding of the concept.

### Knowledge Organisers

Knowledge Organisers present the key information that students must learn during every unit of study in school. The BOA knowledge organisers are designed to match learning in class and learning this information will prepare students for lessons and assessments in every subject on their timetable. Teachers will provide KOs to every student, who should look after these carefully to help with self-quizzing.

### Self-quizzing

Self-quizzing is a simple and effective memory strategy that helps students to chunk, memorise and recall key elements of learning. Flash cards, mind maps and look-cover-write-check strategies should be used for students to quiz themselves on key information from knowledge organisers. Students will be taught how to self-quiz as part of dedicated study support lessons at the start of every academic year.

### Key Stage 3 Home Learning (Monday-Thursday)

#### Year 7 daily home learning

- 20 minutes reading
- 20 minutes Maths – 2 days of Hegarty Maths, 1 day of Timestable Rock Stars and 1 day of KO self-quizzing
- 20 minutes – KO self-quizzing rotating around all other subjects

#### Year 8 daily home learning

- 20 minutes reading
- 20 minutes Maths – 2 days of Hegarty Maths, 2 days of KO self-quizzing
- 20 minutes – KO self-quizzing rotating around all other subjects



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### Year 9 daily home learning

- 20 minutes reading
- 20 minutes Maths – 2 days of Hegarty Maths, 2 days of KO self-quizzing
- 20 minutes – KO self-quizzing rotating around all other subjects
- 30 minutes extended writing practice once per week

### Key Stage 3 Home Learning – Self Quizzing rotation

Home learning is completed on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings and self-quizzing is rotated on a fortnightly basis. RE, PE, Art and Music will not set self-quizzing home learning but will set enrichment/home learning tasks once per half term in line with their curriculum plans.

It is important that students are able to organise their home learning schedule. As we require one subject to be self-quizzed using the KO per day, the following is an example home learning timetable that students may wish to use.

#### Week 1

Monday – Science

Tuesday – History

Wednesday – Science

Thursday – ICT (SAM Learning – online platform or KO tasks)

Friday – Wellbeing time – no home learning

#### Week 2

Monday – French (Vocabulary tests)

Tuesday - Science

Wednesday – Geography (to include Geography reading tasks)

Thursday – Design Technology

Friday – Wellbeing time – no home learning

### Key Stage 4 Home Learning

Home learning will be set by each subject on a weekly basis. English, Maths and Science will set work that will take around 45 minutes each to complete. All other subjects on a student's timetable (apart from Core PE) will set weekly home learning that will take around 30 minutes to complete.

Often, home learning in Years 10 and 11 will be retrieval practice / revision. This means that students will not be required to present 'evidence' of completed home learning, but this will be clear to subject teachers through performance in low stakes quizzes in class. This follows the self-quizzing model explained earlier.

Sometimes, home learning will involve other tasks, including extended writing, presentations, and use of online materials. Teachers will make this clear to students.

Students will be given a minimum of one week to complete homework to allow support students with the time management of homework for several subjects. This is crucial practice for revision timetables in Year 11.



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### Student Planners

In Years 7, 8 and 9, students must use their Student Planner to record their daily reading, their Hegarty Maths scores and to record the subject they have self-quizzed on the relevant date each day. Parents should sign the home learning record on a weekly basis and this will be checked by form tutors.

In Key Stage 4, the weekly diary should be used to record home learning set by subject staff and the deadlines that must be kept. Parents should sign the home learning record on a weekly basis and this will be checked by form tutors.

### Home Learning Completion

Throughout the academy, the use of merits, positive postcards, text messages home and stars of the week will be used to celebrate the completion of home learning.

In Key Stage 3, form tutors will check that home learning diaries have been completed and signed by a parent each week. If home learning has not completed, form tutors will add a negative referral to SIMS and if this happens again the following week, students will be required to attend the Home Learning Club in school to support their organisation and completion of home learning.

In Key Stage 4, subject teachers will record incidents of incomplete home learning on SIMS and will send a text message to parents to inform them that home learning deadlines have not been met. Students will be expected to complete home learning once given an extension.

In all cases, where a student has not completed their home learning, the class teacher may set catch-up time to cover missed learning.

Last Updated: May 2022