

Independent Learning Policy



Independent Learning at Oasis Academy Arena:-

Independent learning tasks are an integral part of a student's learning opportunity at Oasis Academy Arena. Independent learning tasks should be set in accordance with the Independent Learning Timetable. The academy seeks to develop increasingly independent learners who take responsibility for their learning and these tasks make an important contribution to this process.

All students will be set independent learning tasks that are challenging and relevant to their learning needs with an emphasis on the development of valuable learning and thinking skills.

Staff will set meaningful independent learning tasks, on the whole, using 'Microsoft Teams' as outlined below and will outline and teachers will select one piece of independent learning to be marked every half term. Students will be able to access their independent learning at home with their iPads. Students are issued with a personal login, which they use to access their Teams platform.

Staff will also set one extended homework piece, which they will mark and give feedback to. This will be completed on a separate piece of paper and will form part of their assessment for the half term.

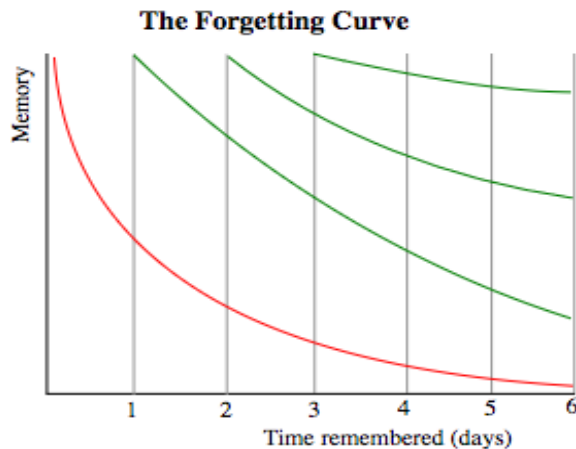
The academy library and IT facilities are available to students after academy hours and students are advised to speak to their Head of Year should they wish to use such facilities. Students should also make their subject teacher aware if they are experiencing difficulties completing their independent learning. If a student is unable to access IT at home to support their independent learning, they will need to contact their Head of Year, who will be able to organise printed resources with the student's subject teachers.

Why we set independent learning:-

- To improve learning and thinking skills through recap and revision
- To develop good study habits, self-discipline and personal organisation
- To develop reading skills and enhance vocabulary
- To facilitate and encourage parental involvement
- To support memory, understanding and the build links between aspects of learning

Range of independent learning tasks:-

- Practice of skills, processes and knowledge linked to previous work using 'forgetting curve tasks'



- Revision and opportunities to expand the information in our Long-term memory
- Analysis or interpretation
- Internet research or other forms of research
- Reading or vocabulary enhancement activities
- Extended writing tasks once every half term (to be marked and feedback given by the teacher)

Guidelines for Independent Learning at OAA:-

- Independent learning must be planned, focused and deepen the knowledge and understanding of the subject being studied. It is not to be used to complete classwork.
- The purpose of an independent learning task must be made clear
- The quality of independent learning is more important than the quantity, an individual task must never exceed 60 minutes
- Guidance for the amount of time that a student should spend on a task must adhere to the academy Independent Learning timetable
- Independent learning must be appropriate to the age and ability of students, with a variety of tasks of different levels of challenge, being beneficial
- Students must receive specific and timely feedback on independent learning tasks, this may be in the form of a class discussion, response to a test, peer assessment, self-assessment or teacher assessment
- Teachers should celebrate and reward Independent Learning success
- Teachers must give a minimum of 3 days to complete a task and a second chance to hand in work if required

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- Teachers must follow up cases of students not completing independent learning as per the escalation process
- Parents should be informed if recurring problems arise with the completion of independent learning
- Heads of Department must ensure that independent learning opportunities are frequent and listed within curriculum plans
- Heads of Department must ensure that the independent learning policy is monitored and applied by all subject teachers
- Heads of Department should inform the Head of Year for persistent offenders in order that the Head of Year can track which students are not completing Independent Learning across a variety of subjects

Independent Learning Timetable:

	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Year 7	French RS	Geography History	Science Art	English DT	Maths Music

	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Year 8	English Music	French RS	Geography History	Science Art	Maths DT

	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Year 9	Science DT	English Music	French RS	Geography History	Art Maths

	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Year 10	Science PE	History Geography	English Business	French Art Drama	Maths Sociology

	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Year 11	History Geography Music	Science PE	Art Sociology Business	English French	Maths RS

N.B. In Year 11, student will also attend intervention from 3pm until 4pm on selected days of the week, currently on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

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Escalation Process for incomplete Independent Learning at OAA:-

Should a student not complete their Independent Learning then the following process shall be implemented:

