



**Pittville School**  
Cheltenham

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**Headteacher** Richard Gilpin

5<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

At the beginning of this academic year we will be introducing a new approach to the setting and tracking of homework completion across the school. Towards the end of last term, senior leaders worked closely with curriculum leaders to look in detail at our homework provision and how this could be further improved. Please be aware that changes will come into force from the beginning of this academic year. We will be discussing homework in greater detail at our 'Year Ahead' meetings; you will have received an invitation by letter for these meetings via Edulink.

### **How will homework be set and what form will it take?**

Homework will be set by teachers via the assignment function on Microsoft Teams. Parents/carers will receive a weekly update email containing details of the homework their child has been set. Some homework will be submitted in class and others online. Homework at Pittville School is based on three principles: preparation, retrieval of knowledge and purposeful practice. It can take many different forms, examples of which can be found in your curriculum booklet.

### **How much homework will students receive?**

Each half term you will receive a homework schedule which outlines the homework your son/daughter should expect to receive across their curriculum.

### **How will homework be marked?**

Some homework tasks will be marked digitally via the assignment function on Teams and others may be marked physically by the teacher. Self-marking quizzes will be used by staff and at times peers will be involved in the assessment of homework and will feed back to one another. Homework will be marked where appropriate but not in every instance.

### **What happens if homework is not completed?**

Every time a student fails to submit a piece of homework, parents/carers will be informed via a standard message sent out on Edulink. Where students fail to complete homework on more than one occasion/to an extent deemed of concern to the teacher a number of actions will be taken:

- *A grade 'C' will always be awarded for ATL grades, where homework is of concern and this will be identified on reports sent home.*



- *Referrals can be made by teaching staff to their curriculum leaders who will look to put appropriate intervention in place in discussion with senior staff.*
- *Students can be referred for compulsory attendance to 'Independent Study' after school where non-completion of homework is deemed to be a significant concern.*
- *Students may be placed on effort report if their overall attitude to learning is unsatisfactory (and homework may be a part of this), working with their tutors to track their effort.*
- *Curriculum areas may still wish to request that students remain at school in order to complete homework with them, however we would like to move away from repeated sanctioning for non-completion and instead work more closely with parents to ensure homework is both supported and completed; identify where there may be barriers to students completing homework and provide appropriate support. It is hoped that this will support students in developing an independent and proactive approach to the completion of homework.*

### **What is 'Independent Study'?**

Independent Study is an after-school study provision which enables students to work on their homework with the support of staff. Independent Study will run on Monday and Thursday from 3.10pm – 4.10pm in the canteen and will be led by senior staff.

### **What can I do as a parent/carer to support my child?**

**Download and save the curriculum booklet** you receive at the beginning of the academic year. This will provide you with invaluable information on curriculum coverage.

**Keep a copy of your son/daughter's homework schedule** each half term. This will give you an overview of what will be set each week.

**Create a suitable workspace at home.** Somewhere quiet that your son/daughter can work, with appropriate equipment.

**Have regular conversations.** Discuss homework that is set and ensure that you address any non-completion notifications you may receive. Support us as a school in ensuring that your child becomes independent and proactive in their approach to learning beyond the classroom.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting us in our approach to homework this academic year. If you have any general concerns relating to homework or if we can further support you in supporting your child please contact Mrs Kavanagh at [pkavanagh@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:pkavanagh@pittville.gloucs.sch.uk).

Yours sincerely,

Mr Gilpin  
Headteacher

