



# **PHILIPS HIGH SCHOOL INDEPENDENT STUDY POLICY**

September 2023 – DMN

Independent Study is an important part of students' learning; it supports and extends learning begun in class and enables students to develop habits of study and strategies for personal organisation and time management. It is also a means by which parents can support and show a direct interest in their child's learning.

Independent Study tasks will vary according to subjects and learning activities, but the principles remain the same. All Independent Study that is set must follow the school policy and timetable. Independent Study should be purposeful and challenging and built within the curriculum. Independent Study should be checked/acknowledged during the next lesson, either by staff, peer, or self-assessment, or as appropriate to the task.

Independent Study will be set on Satchel-One and Heads of Department should monitor that Independent Study is set in their area as part of the Quality Assurance process termly. Heads of Department should further ensure that Independent Study is challenging, engaging and linked to the departmental Schemes of Work.

### Independent Study Objectives

- To encourage students to develop the practice of independent study.
- To develop perseverance and self-discipline.
- To revisit prior learning and embed revision techniques.
- To enable students to learn through the practice of skills and reinforce what they have learnt in the classroom.
- To permit more rapid progress to be made by everyone; to promote quiet reflection on the work covered in the lesson.
- To open areas of study and to make possible the use of materials and sources available outside the classroom.
- To encourage students to enjoy the skills, concepts and experiences related to each subject.

### Independent Study times

We are keen to promote a work-life balance. Independent Study should have a focus on quality rather than quantity. Students will be provided with an Independent Study timetable. At KS3 students should receive 1 Independent Study per week from subjects. At KS4 this should be increased to 2. Year 7 will have Independent Study introduced to them in the first term once they have access to Satchel-One

#### Year 7

DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SUBJECT	GEOGRAPHY	MATHS	FRENCH	SCIENCE	ENGLISH HISTORY

X (CONQ)

DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SUBJECT	MATHS	SCIENCE	ENGLISH	HISTORY	GEOGRAPHY

Y (UER)

#### Year 8

DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SUBJECT	MATHS	ENGLISH	SCIENCE	GEOGRAPHY	HISTORY

X (CONQ)

DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SUBJECT	GEOGRAPHY	SCIENCE	MATHS	HISTORY	FRENCH

Y (UER)

#### Year 9

DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SUBJECT	FRENCH	MATHS	ENGLISH	HISTORY	GEOGRAPHY

X (CONQ)

DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SUBJECT	ENGLISH	GEOGRAPHY	SCIENCE	FRENCH	HISTORY

Y (UER)

#### Year 10

DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SUBJECT	HUMS/FRENCH	MATHS/OPT B	ENGLISH	HUMS/FRENCH	MATHS/OPT B

ASPIRE/INSPIRE

DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SUBJECT	SCIENCE	MATHS/OPT B	ENGLISH	ENGLISH	MATHS/OPT B

EXPLORE

#### Year 11

DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SUBJECT	HUMS/FRENCH	OPT B	OPT A	HUMS/FRENCH	OPT B/OPT A

ASPIRE/INSPIRE

DAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
SUBJECT	MATHS	OPT B	OPT A	ENGLISH	OPT B/OPT A

EXPLORE

## **Revision**

All students will receive Independent Study which is revision. At KS3 English, Maths, Science, Humanities, and languages should set a revision activity in week B. Other subjects should set this once per half term of study. At KS4 all subjects will set a revision activity in week B as part of the Independent Learning timetable. Revision is encouraged throughout the whole school year not just before examinations. Independent Study should be set to cover previous topics and interleaving. Interleaving is the process where students mix, or interleave, multiple subjects or topics to enrich their learning. There is also an expectation that students also do independent revision aside from their Independent Study commitments.

## **Independent Study Club**

At Philips High School we provide an Independent Study club. This is especially useful for pupils who find it hard to work at home, or for some Independent Study tasks that require school resources (books, software, equipment). Students can use the library (at lunch or after school) as well as the year group detention room. Some subjects may wish to provide a room for their students.

## **Departmental Support for Independent Study**

Students will receive a sanction for failure to do Independent Study and staff should record as a H/W behaviour point. This will automatically trigger a detention regardless of how many points they have accrued during the 24-hour period. KS3 Students will receive a detention of 40 minutes and KS4 students a 60-minute detention for poor/lack of homework. These detentions will be supervised by teaching staff on a rota system. If you have a known absence, it is the teaching staff responsibility to cover this duty. Support should be available for pupils who are failing to complete Independent Study/failure to complete to an acceptable standard. After school/ lunchtime departmental Independent Study clubs should be available where students can get subject specific advice and support from subject specialists.

## **Use of Planners and Satchel One**

Independent Study will be recorded by staff on Satchel One but students should additionally use their planners. There will be time in forms to explain the use of the planners and Satchel One. A new planner should be bought immediately if it is lost. Parents are asked to check the planner. Planners should be looked after by the pupil; misuse will incur a detention depending on the nature of the offence.

## **Monitoring Independent Study**

Heads of Department monitor that Independent Study is set in their area as part of the Quality Assurance process termly. Setting of appropriate Independent Study should form part of the department discussions at the Monday am briefings.