



Parent/Carer KS3 Home learning Guide 2017-18



'We believe that each person should be known, loved and valued by encouragement to realise his/her full potential through positive commitment and achievement. We aim to develop the whole person and enable him/her to make a positive Christian contribution to society.'
An extract from our Mission Statement

Purpose of home learning

Home learning, at St Gabriel's, aims to enrich and build on classroom learning. It helps pupils to achieve goals and targets and allows them to realise their full potential.

Some subjects will set project based tasks each term where pupils will be required to research, plan, prepare work in different mediums and evaluate what they have produced. The projects aim to encourage independent learning within a supportive structure. Pupils will have opportunities to think creatively, manage and reflect on their own learning or work in teams to make decisions and solve problems. We need your help to encourage learners to develop good study habits and master the skills of independent learning so that they can make the best progress at St Gabriel's and be ready to meet the challenges of the next stage in their journey through life.

Best practice provides a variety of approaches. It allows for different learning styles, develops different skills and achieves different outcomes whilst maintaining motivation and challenge. Reading for pleasure is encouraged in all subjects for learners to enhance understanding and to improve their literacy skills; as well as developing a skill for life long learning.

Recording home learning

We use the on-line 'Show my Homework' to provide pupils with full details of tasks set, deadlines and resources to support completion. Show my Homework can be accessed by clicking on the logo on the front page of the school website to display the 'school calendar' where you can search for any homework task. Pupils and parents/carers have been given log in details for lap tops, tablets and smart phones which then allows access to a personalised home learning calendar for each learner and enable them to receive notifications of when deadlines are approaching. This aims to improve the quality and completion of independent learning by enhancing communication and support for home learning.

All year groups have a St Gabriel's log book to make a written record when it is needed and for any communication between parents and staff.

We ask for your support by checking Show my Homework to see the record of work set and that it's completed for deadlines. Do contact your child's form teacher, using your child's St Gabriel's Log Book, if you want to give any feedback about home learning or communicate any concerns.

How can you support your child with home learning?

- Check what tasks have been set on Show my Homework and the deadline for completion
- Find a place where they can concentrate at home on the tasks set.
- Help them to establish a routine for working on their learning at home and put aside the time required. Work around any other commitments they have e.g. sports, music or drama. Ensure that they have a balance between their leisure time and home learning tasks. There are time guidelines for each task to help you with this.
- Encourage your son/daughter to manage their work when the task is an extended project over a number of weeks rather than leaving it all until the last night!
- There are many ways that internet access can help support learning at home but it also provides many sources of distraction like games, facebook, twitter, snapchat , you tube etc. Encourage them to make the time spent on home learning productive.

Do encourage them to talk to their subject teacher if they are having difficulties completing any home learning task. They may need a further explanation or to re-check the original instructions.

Information

- Use this **guide** to be clear about expectations from different subjects.
- In each subject pupils have a **progress record** which can tell you their target sub level for the year and grids are often provided to show criteria to achieve particular levels.
- If you have a look at their exercise book, home learning booklet or the on-line record in Maths, you can see the feedback and ideas for the next steps in learning. Teachers will review progress in home learning each half term and there will also be peer and self assessment by pupils.
- There are computers available in the Resource Centre and other areas at lunchtimes for pupils who need the internet facilities in school to check Show my Homework or complete on-line tasks. After school there is KS3 G.A.B.S Club in Room 20 for home learning support.
- Please be aware that any work forgotten or not completed to an acceptable standard may result in a sanction such as a detention, at lunchtime or after school.



Year 7 Home Learning

All the details of tasks set and deadlines can be found on Show my Homework (click on the logo on the school website front page) using your individual log in for a personalised home learning plan.

RE - set weekly. There will be Gold, Silver and Bronze tasks to complete and RE teachers will indicate the level your child should complete.

English – a variety of reading and writing skill-based tasks to work through each week of the half term. Additional home learning projects will run alongside some scheme of work, including reading for pleasure, and will be embedded in class teaching. It is essential pupils complete these tasks in order to participate effectively in class.

Maths – Set each week via MyMaths website (with a pupil specific password) to consolidate learning. Additional tasks may be set by the teacher involving worksheets, puzzles or research. In Maths, teachers can access a summary of their scores as an indication of progress in on-line work.

Science – Science will be using a combination of tasks; lesson related questions using the Educake program, past paper questions using the ExamPro program, multiple choice quizzes, review work via videos and activities, literacy work, written tasks and extension tasks set via the Science KS3 website.

Humanities - set 3 out of every 4 weeks. Tasks will include key word spellings, knowledge based quizzes, research, revision and written tasks. Spellings and quizzes to be submitted via Show my Homework and all other tasks handed into the class teacher for the deadline.

Spanish – Set a minimum of once a week. Tasks will include involve reinforcing language and structures via reading worksheets, ICT activities or written work, learning for short term tests or revision for formal assessments. There is an integrated on-line home learning programme Pearson Activelearn for Spanish (Viva) courses.

Music – 1 project set in Spring term.

New Technologies and Art:

- **Computer Science** – Set once every 1-2 weeks depending on the length of unit. On-line tasks are on Doodlelearn or Unit booklets and tasks provided to support and extend classwork. Pupils will need a password from their teacher to access the resources on Doodlelearn. Teachers can access a summary of their scores as an indication of progress in on-line work.
- **Design & Technology - Resistant Materials / Graphics** - completion of worksheets and project task
- **Food** - Written tasks, extended project task and preparation of ingredients for practical sessions.
- **Art** - 1 project set in Autumn and Spring term

Time Guideline

In KS3 up to 30 minutes per subject



Year 8 Home Learning

All the details of tasks set and deadlines can be found on Show my Homework (click on the logo on the school website front page) using your individual log in for a personalised home learning plan.

RE - set weekly. There will be Gold, Silver and Bronze tasks to complete and RE teachers will indicate the level your child should complete.

English – a variety of reading and writing skill-based tasks to work through each week of the half term. An additional home learning projects will be completed throughout the year and embedded into lessons: pupils will be expected to complete a news and current affairs scrapbook, collecting newspaper and magazine cuttings. It is essential pupils complete this to participate effectively in lessons and engage with non-fiction, in preparation for the GCSE course.

Maths – Set each week via MyMaths website (with a pupil specific password) to consolidate learning. Additional tasks may be set by the teacher involving worksheets, puzzles or research. In Maths, teachers can access a summary of their scores as an indication of progress in on-line work.

Science – Science will be using a combination of tasks; lesson related questions using the Educake program, past paper questions using the ExamPro program, multiple choice quizzes, review work via videos and activities, literacy work, written tasks and extension tasks set via the Science KS3 website.

French and Spanish - Home learning will be set each week. Tasks involve reinforcing language and structures via reading worksheets, ICT activities or written work, learning for short term tests or revision for formal assessments. There is an integrated on-line home learning programme Pearson Activelearn for both French (Studio) and Spanish (Viva) courses.

In **Humanities** home learning tasks will include key word spellings, quizzes (submitted via Show my Homework), research and written tasks handed in to their class teacher on the deadline.

Geography / History – set every alternate week

Music – 1 project set in Spring term.

New Technologies and Art:

Computer Science – on-line tasks on Doodlelearn or booklets and tasks to support and extend classwork. Set once every 3 weeks. Pupils will need a password from their teacher to access the resources on Doodlelearn. Teachers can access a summary of their scores as an indication of progress in on-line work.

Design & Technology - Resistant Materials/Electronics – completion of worksheets and project tasks

Food - Written tasks, extended project task and preparation of ingredients for practical sessions.

Art – 1 project set in Autumn and Spring term

Time Guideline

In KS3 up to 30 minutes per subject



Year 9 Home Learning

All the details of tasks set and deadlines can be found on Show my Homework (click on the logo on the school website front page) using your individual log in for a personalised home learning plan.

RE - set weekly. There will be Gold, Silver and Bronze tasks to complete and RE teachers will indicate the level your child should complete.

English – a variety of reading and writing skill-based tasks to work through each week of the half term. Tasks will be reflective of the work pupils are studying in class and it is essential pupils complete these activities in order to prepare effectively for the GCSE course.

Maths – Set each week using MathsWatch (and pupil specific password). Pupils will be given a homework sheet with differentiated consolidation and revision activities with clips to watch and make notes on. Additional homework may be set by the class teacher depending on the needs of the learner.

Science - Science will be using a combination of tasks; lesson related questions using the Educake program, past paper questions using the ExamPro program, multiple choice quizzes, review work via videos and activities, literacy work, written tasks and extension tasks set via the Science KS3 website. Year 9 pupils have revision guides to read and make notes from all three subject areas (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) on a weekly basis.

French and Spanish – Set a minimum of once a week. Tasks will involve reinforcing language and structures via reading worksheets, ICT activities or written work, learning for short term tests or revision for formal assessments. There is an integrated on-line home learning programme Pearson Activelearn for both French (Studio) and Spanish (Viva) courses.

In **Humanities** home learning tasks will be set 3 out of every 4 weeks and include key word spellings, quizzes (submitted via Show my Homework), research and written tasks handed in to their class teacher on the deadline.

New Technologies and Art:

Design & Technology - Resistant Materials / Graphics - completion of worksheets and project tasks.

Food - Written tasks, extended project task and preparation of ingredients for practical sessions.

Computer Science - tasks set when appropriate to prepare /consolidate learning.

Art -1 project set in Autumn and Spring term

Most subjects are working towards completing Key Stage 3 assessments during Year 9 and the transition of skills to topics for GCSE. Some subjects e.g. Maths, English, Science, RE and Humanities start GCSE courses during Year 9. This will impact on the setting of home learning to incorporate GCSE skills and concepts and may involve the use of GCSE grades and criteria in feedback.