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MEDEN
SCHOOL

September 8, 2023

Home Learning

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to a new academic year for your child. We're excited to begin the learning journey with your child, whether they are new to the school and joining us in Year 7, or are returning to us in Years 8-13. This letter includes information about home learning that you will find useful, including any changes we have made.

The Importance of Home Learning

Home learning has been proven to have a significant impact in raising student achievement. It remains an important part of the Meden experience for our students. It is vital that your child is given the opportunity to recall, retrieve and repeat the rich knowledge they are learning in lessons so that they can use this knowledge to make a difference in the world.

Changes to Home Learning

At Meden, we are working hard at making communication between parents and the school as effective as possible. One way in which we are doing this is by acting when parents give us feedback. In a recent parent survey, some parents noted that keeping track of their child's home learning could be improved with better communication and a clearer system.

We have listened. This year, you will be able to view all your child's homework in one place. All homework set by teachers will be accessible via the Parent Portal system on My Child At School. Amongst other features, you will be able to see when the homework was set, what the homework is, and when it is due.

A helpful guide is attached [here](#) to show you how to view all home learning.

A parent guide to using My Child at School can be found [here](#).

Below you will find a Q and A style table that includes everything else you need to know about home learning at Meden.

Home Learning Q and A

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| When is home learning be set? | According to the home learning timetable. A link to the timetable can be found here . Subjects not listed will offer opportunities throughout the year via our enrichment programme. |
| What should the home learning look like? | KS3/4/5 Retrieval quizzes. Recalling learning via videos and online lessons. Repeated knowledge that allows students to memorise key information. KS4/5 Extended practice/writing |

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| <p>How long should my child spend on each home learning?</p> | <p>KS3 - No more than twenty minutes. KS4 – No more than thirty minutes. This equates to one hour per day.</p> |
| <p>Which digital platforms are used?</p> | <p>Digital platforms: GCSE Pod, Dr Frost, Seneca and Microsoft Forms</p> |
| <p>Does my child have to record their home learning?</p> | <p>Yes, they record it in their home learning planners on the day the home learning is timetabled to be set.</p> |
| <p>Is there a space for my child to complete home learning at school?</p> | <p>Yes, Homework Club is on after school every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday in the library from 3.10pm to 4pm.</p> |
| <p>Can I get support if my child does not have access to IT at home?</p> | <p>Yes, please ask your child to let their tutor know. We have Chromebooks available for students who need access.</p> |
| <p>What happens if my child is having IT issues?</p> | <p>Ask your child to speak to their tutor who will fix this for them. If they have homework that is due, they should also speak to the teacher who set it. A detention will not be issued if they are having IT access issues and they have communicated this to their teacher before the day the homework is due.</p> |
| <p>What happens if my child does not complete their home learning?</p> | <p>KS3 (Y7,8,9) Students who miss two pieces of homework per week are issued a breaktime detention. This takes place the day after the second non-completion is logged on the school system. Year 10 As above, but students must only miss one piece of homework per week to be issued a detention. Year 11 Student who miss one piece of homework per week will be issued a 50-minute afterschool detention on a Thursday.</p> |
| <p>What happens if my child fails to attend compulsory Homework club?</p> | <p>A 50-minute afterschool detention is issued if students fail to attend their breaktime detention. These take place on a Thursday.</p> |

During the first week of school, your child will be shown how to access their set homework, how to access all platform logins and how to familiarise themselves with the school's systems. There will be no homework set in the first week of term to ensure all students have access to their logins.

All information about home learning can be found on a tab under the Parent Portal of the school's website [here](#).

If you have any questions regarding home learning, your first point of contact is your child's tutor.

We look forward to working with parents this year to ensure your child's journey at Meden is enjoyable, purposeful, and rewarding.

Many thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Mann'.

Abigail Mann
Assistant Headteacher