

KS5 A Level Home Learning

Expectations overview

At Mulberry Academy Shoreditch, students are expected to dedicate at least the same amount of time to independent study as they spend in lessons. For example, a student studying four A-Levels typically has 25-30 hours of lessons over a fortnight, and it is expected that they also commit to a minimum of 25 hours of independent study at home.

A-Level courses are designed to promote independent learning, which is vital for developing critical thinking and writing skills. Independent study may include academic reading, practising problems or equations, watching tutorials, completing past papers, revisiting lesson content, or preparing for the lesson ahead. A strong commitment to independent learning is essential for securing the best possible grades and ensuring a positive and rewarding Sixth Form experience.

SUBJECT	FREQUENCY	HOME LEARNING	INDEPENDENT STUDY
Art	Twice a week	Personal Portfolio targets set weekly in books and on MS Teams. Finishing pieces. Recording ideas and observations and research work.	External visits to locations and to gallery and museums. Independent study booklets
Biology	Every lesson, 5 hours per week	Complete booklets, exam questions, revision tasks.	Complete practice questions for each topic that are shared on Microsoft Teams, consolidate knowledge into revision notes, complete textbook questions and the consolidation booklet for each topic.
Business	Weekly	Year 12: Students will be set homework each week on Seneca to consolidate learning from prior lesson. Year 13: Teacher to set assignment question each week linked to the topic.	Work on coursework or revise for exam units
Chemistry	Every lesson, 5 hours per week	Complete consolidation booklets, exam questions, revision tasks.	Complete practice questions for each topic that are shared on Microsoft Teams, consolidate knowledge into revision notes, complete textbook questions and the consolidation booklet for each topic.
Computer Science	Weekly	Students will be assigned weekly homework, which will be comprised of ongoing programming challenges in Y12 and project work and exam practice in Y13.	Students are expected to spend time revising lesson material, practicing programming, completing their projects and preparing for upcoming exams. Revision resources include: SmartRevise, Isaac Computer Science, PGOonline Revision Book, Craig n Dave, Physics and Maths Tutor and past papers.
Criminology	Weekly	Homework booklet set at the start of each half term. To be completed weekly. Pre-readings and videos set on teams weekly.	Each subject will set up to 5 hours of independent study work to be completed
Drama	Weekly	Component based. Includes portfolio notes, research, section writing, line-learning, script writing, presentations. External visits to theatre and note taking, response writing, opinion-piece writing.	Condensing live evaluation notes and studying / creating revision materials. Independent revision booklets on key topics.
Economics	Weekly	Year 12: Students will be set weekly homework on Seneca to consolidate learning from previous lesson. Year 13: Teacher to assign questions each week linked to the topic. Questions will range from 5 marks, 12 marks and 25 marks.	Read the Economist regularly

English Literature	Twice a week	Either reinforcement or application of in-class learning (including revision for assessments/mock exams and essays), or flipped learning.	Memorise plot and key quotations for all texts. Read and take notes on articles on British Library website, particularly for Blake and Othello. Complete Independent Study booklets.
French	Twice a week	Essay research and preparation for timed essay every two weeks. Reading and research activities every week.	Pre-made booklets, reading of newspaper articles and listening to the news online.
Further Maths	Twice a week	Homework booklets: one Pure, one Decision.	Complete all textbook exercises, use DrFrost for exam practice, and complete independent study booklets in MS Teams.
Geography	Weekly	GeoFact files, exam questions, online research, presentations, flip reading.	Plus, independent study booklets (ISB) which are set every half term,
History	Weekly	Pre-reading or essay planning.	Use student resource section of Historical Association website, listen to BBC History Extra podcasts, additional academic reading from History library in 211 and 212.
Law	Weekly	Homework booklet set at the start of each half term. To be completed weekly. Pre-readings and videos set on teams weekly.	5 hours of independent study work will be set.
Maths	Twice a week	Homework booklets: one Pure, one Applied.	Complete all textbook exercises, use DrFrost for exam practice, and complete independent study booklets in MS Teams.
Music	Weekly	Music theory quizzes on Teams. This will follow and support learning in class. Topics include: Reading rhythm, identifying pitches, time signatures and musical elements.	Listen to music, go to live music concerts.
PE	Weekly	Weekly long-answer practice (8 or 15 marks). AO1–AO3 mapped and timed. Model answers revisited as Do Now = “Re-draft & Rehearse”. Homework set via Teams + NEA milestones.	Weekly long-answer practice, NEA
Physics	Every lesson, 5 hours per week	Complete booklets, exam questions, revision tasks.	Complete practice questions for each topic that are handed out in booklet form. Download past papers from the AQA website and complete these before using Physics and Maths tutor.
Politics	Weekly	Pre-reading, essay planning or revision/consolidation using Pre-chewed Politics.	Use Seneca for revision, read/watch the news regularly (BBC News, Channel 4, Guardian), listen to news podcasts, read extracts from key thinkers posted on Teams
Psychology	Weekly	Homework booklet set at the start of each half term. To be completed weekly. Pre-readings and videos set on teams weekly.	5 hours of independent study work will be set.
RE	4 pieces of homework a half term	AO1/AO2 essays Research task/flipped learning	Pre-made booklets
Sociology	Weekly	Essay planning, 10 or 30 marker essay questions, self-assessment or pre-reading using Tutor2u	Weekly activity booklet which is checked every Friday Morning

Spanish	Twice a week	Essay research and preparation for timed essay every two weeks. Reading and research activities every week.	Pre-made booklets, reading of newspaper articles and listening to the news online.
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