

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	Targets set every lesson in sketchbook. 5 hours a week.	Personal Portfolio targets set weekly in books and on MS Teams. Finishing pieces that have been started in lesson. Recording ideas and observations through chosen medium.	External visits to locations and to gallery and museums. Observational drawing in a small sketchbook.
Biology	Every lesson, 5 hours per week	Cornell notes as lesson review. Exam questions, research tasks related to required practicals. Expectation to complete Cornell notes after each lesson. Complete and self-assess homework with the included mark scheme.	Completing Cornell notes and homework immediately after lessons. Using textbook to re-read chapters covered in lessons and pre-reading ahead of upcoming lessons to encourage students come to lessons with questions about the topic they are about to study. Extra exam practice can be found on Physics and Maths Tutor website.
Business	Weekly	Year 12: Students will be set homework each week on Seneca to consolidate learning from prior lesson. In addition, students regularly be set extended writing questions (9/16/25 mark question). Year 13: Teacher to set assignment question each week linked to the topic. Assignment questions will be an extended writing question (9/16/25 mark question)	Complete additional Seneca learning questions and watch tutor2u videos to close any gaps.
Chemistry	Every lesson, 5 hours per week	The homeworks will be in the form of practice questions, exam questions, consolidation tasks, research tasks or further reading.	Students are expected to spend time revising lesson material, practicing questions, completing consolidation booklets and preparing for upcoming exams. Revision resources include: Eliot Rintoul videos, Chemrevise notes, A-level Chemistry website for practice questions and Physics and Maths Tutor for past papers.
Classical Civilisation	Twice per week	Pre-reading of set texts and completion of deep reading booklets. Application of in-class learning (essays, mock papers, creation of revision materials for all modules)	Modern scholarship articles, additional classical texts from the suggested reading list, independent research and revision.
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 complete Cornell notes after every lesson.	Students are expected to spend time revising lesson material, practicing programming, completing their projects and preparing for upcoming exams. Revision resources include: Gillott Learning, SmartRevise, Isaac Computer Science, PGOnline Revision Book, Craig n Dave, Physics and Maths Tutor and past papers.

Criminology	Weekly	Completion of Controlled Assessment Booklet for Unit 1 and 3 (in term 1 and 3) and Exam Questions for Unit 2 and 4 (in Term 2)	Completion of Controlled Assessment Book (Research of key cases to support questions in Controlled Assessments and Exam Question Booklets)
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: Homework will primarily be completed on Uplearn. Students will be set 5 hours per week (2.5 microeconomics and 2.5 macroeconomics). Teachers will either set specific tasks or self-selected tasks. Year 12: Homework will primarily be completed on Uplearn. Students will be set 5 hours per week (2.5 microeconomics and 2.5 macroeconomics). Teachers will either set specific tasks or self-selected tasks.	Students must: • use school's free subscription to the Financial Times and keep upto date with current news in the economic environment. • Additional Uplearn use with a focus on exam practice questions • Watch Tutor2u videos on Macro & Micro and make notes
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 essays. Reading and research activities every week. Grammar tasks/worksheets.	Grammar workbook, 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	Reviewing of class notes, 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.	Ensure that you go onto FlippedLaw to revisit each topic covered this year.
Maths	Twice a week	Homework booklets: one Pure, one Applied or textbook exercises set on Teams.	Complete all textbook exercises, use DrFrost for exam practice, and complete independent study booklets in MS Teams.
Music	Weekly	30 Minutes of daily instrument practise plus the following: - Music theory quizzes on Teams. - Long answer practise questions. - Composition coursework.	Complete the wider listening list. Visit live music events. Perform at events or to peers. Independent analysis of symphonies. Read books from the wider reading list.
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 Uplearn, 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	Reviewing of notes, pre-reading, essay planning or revision/consolidation using Pre-chewed Politics/ Political Review Articles.	Use Seneca/ Political Review Articles 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	SAQ (Short Answer Question) Booklets completed after lessons to consolidate learning. Up Learn Assignments completed following lessons to strengthen and consolidate learning. Essay Plan Booklets- to plan 16-mark essays for each topic.	Ensure lesson handouts are completed using lesson powerpoint posted on teams, watch SMcartledge, Psychboost to consolidate content, plan essays for lesson completed using essay plan booklets. Write exam questions in timed and exam conditions. Y13 students to continue consolidating Y12 content.
RE	Every lesson	Summary sheet, essay planning, consolidation questions	Pre-made booklets Further reading given by teacher Wider reading/watching/listening provided by teacher on Teams
Sociology	Weekly	Independent study booklet which is completed on a weekly basis to consolidate lessons covered. Students should be consistently completing this throughout the week. To plan 10, 20 and 30 mark Qs, write essays, watch revision videos and answer questions based on these.	Ensure lesson notes are completed using lesson powerpoint posted on teams, watch Tutor2U video to consolidate content, plan essays for lesson completed using argument A and B structure. Utilising essay packs to write exam questions in timed conditions. Y13 students to continue consolidating Y12 content.
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.