

**WROTHAM SCHOOL****INDEPENDENT LEARNING POLICY****Document Review****Approval Date:****September 2025****Committee Responsible:****Local Governing Body****Next Review Date:****September 2026**

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Intent

At Wrotham School, we are committed to developing confident and successful independent learners who take ownership of their education. Our Independent Learning Policy aims to cultivate habits of self-directed study, critical thinking, and resourcefulness in our students, ensuring they are equipped for success both in and beyond the classroom.

Our intent is to:

- Support students in developing strong study habits.
- Support the development of long-term memory and strong recall through repeated retrieval and active engagement with learning materials.
- Promote independent learning strategies that support academic success at key assessment points and build lifelong learning skills.
- Prepare students for key assessment points.
- Equip students with the ability to manage their learning in preparation for further education, employment, and life.

What is Independent Learning?

Independent learning is a regular and essential aspect of each subject's curriculum. It may include:

- Preparation for assessment points.
- Retrieval practice of key content.
- Application of knowledge through independent revision strategies.

Why does Independent Learning matter?

Independent learning is a crucial part of a student's educational experience. It provides opportunities for learners to:

Deepens understanding: revisiting materials through independent study which reinforces classroom learning.

Enhances recall and long-term memory: embedding knowledge into long-term memory, making it more accessible during assessments.

Develops study and time management skills: fostering time management skills, planning skills and organisational skills.

Preparation for assessments: exposing students to revision materials and active recall strategies ensures students are better prepared for assessment points.

Expectations for teachers

Teachers will:

- Provide students with high-quality knowledge organisers and/or structured revision materials aligned with upcoming assessments.
- Clearly explain expectations for independent learning tasks and support students in selecting effective revision strategies.
- Model effective use of independent learning tools in class.
- Some subjects may choose to use online platforms to supplement and support with Independent learning and assessment preparation. These platforms might include: Maths Watch, Seneca Learning, Sparx Reader, My Maths, Neeto quizzes and other identified platforms.

Expectations for students

Students at Wrotham School are expected to:

- Regularly check Satchel One for Independent Learning tasks.
- Complete Independent tasks on time and in line with deadlines.
- Engage fully with all independent learning tasks.
- Use provided revision materials, such as knowledge organisers or subject-specific resources, to prepare for assessments.
- Create their own revision tools using a range of strategies, including:

- ✓ Revision clocks
- ✓ Annotated reading
- ✓ Flipped Learning
- ✓ Mind maps / concept maps
- ✓ Flowcharts
- ✓ Timelines
- ✓ Flashcards (paper or digital)
- ✓ Annotated diagrams
- ✓ Summaries
- ✓ Comic strips
- ✓ Graphic organisers
- ✓ Revision quizzes
- ✓ Revision posters
- ✓ Self-made knowledge organisers
- ✓ Practice questions and self-quizzing
- ✓ Teaching the content to someone else
- ✓ Using online platforms and educational YouTube content for guided review

Where will Independent Learning tasks be set?

All Independent Learning tasks should be set on Satchel One.

Frequency of Independent Learning

Frequency and workload expectations will vary by key stage and subject area.

Key Stage 3- Lower School Years 7, 8 and 9

- Years 7 and 8: English and Maths one Independent Learning task per week. All other subjects one Independent Learning task per fortnight.
- Year 9: English, Maths and Science one Independent Learning task per week. All other subjects one Independent Learning task per fortnight.

Key Stage 4- Upper School Years 10 and 11

- One hour per week for each subject.

Key Stage 5- Upper School Years 12 and 13

- Five hours of Independent study per week.

Expectations for parents and carers

Parents and carers are encouraged to:

- Support the development of regular independent learning routines at home.
- Encourage students to use revision strategies regularly and monitor engagement.
- Communicate with the school if concerns arise about a student's ability to complete independent learning tasks.

Monitoring of Independent Learning

A lack of completion of Independent Learning tasks will be noted as "No Independent Learning".

END

This policy was adopted by the Governors Curriculum Committee

To be reviewed on an annual basis – September 2026