

18th September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

From next week, we will be introducing our revised **Independent Study programme** for all students at Stockport Academy. Independent Study will play an important role in helping students consolidate their learning, develop good study habits, and build the skills needed for success both in school and beyond.

At Stockport Academy, we are committed to providing exceptional learning experiences in the classroom. Independent Study complements this by giving students opportunities to revisit and practise learning outside of lessons, helping them to retain knowledge, deepen their understanding, and become more confident, independent learners.

Why is Independent Study important?

Independent Study helps students to:

- Practise and apply what they have learned in lessons.
- Strengthen their memory through regular retrieval of prior learning.
- Develop confidence in applying knowledge to new situations.
- Build effective study habits and time-management skills.
- Take greater responsibility for their own learning and progress.
- Prepare successfully for assessments and examinations.

What will Independent Study look like?

Key Stage 3

- Students will receive weekly Independent Study in:
 - English
 - Mathematics
 - Science
 - Geography (alternating weeks)
 - Modern Foreign Languages (alternating weeks)

Most KS3 tasks will be set through online platforms such as **Sparx, Seneca and LanguageNut**, allowing students to review and practise key learning regularly.

Key Stage 4

- Students will receive weekly Independent Study in all subjects.
- Tasks may include online learning, examination preparation activities, extended practice tasks, or project-based assignments where appropriate.

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Accessing and Tracking Independent Study

All Independent Study tasks will be recorded on **Arbor**, where both students and parents can view upcoming deadlines and completed work. Arbor will also send reminder notifications 24 hours before work is due.

Support Available

We are committed to ensuring every student can successfully complete their Independent Study. To support this, we will provide:

- Lunchtime and after-school Independent Study support.
- Access to the library and other quiet working spaces.
- Chromebook loans for students who do not have appropriate access to technology at home.
- Teacher feedback to address misconceptions and support learning.

Expectations

We expect all students to complete their Independent Study to the best of their ability and submit it by the stated deadline. Students who complete Independent Study regularly will be recognised through our rewards system and House Points.

Where Independent Study is not completed, students may be required to attend a detention to complete the missing work. If concerns arise regarding repeated non-completion, parents and carers will be contacted so that we can work together to support the student.

Working Together

We know that parental support is one of the most important factors in a child's success at school. Simple actions such as encouraging your child to establish a regular study routine, checking Arbor, and discussing their learning can make a significant difference.

Thank you in advance for your continued support as we launch this important initiative. By working together, we can help every student develop the knowledge, resilience and independent learning skills needed to achieve their very best and aspire towards the broadest possibilities in life.

Yours sincerely,

Lee Blood

Assistant Principal

KS3 Independent Study Timetable: Term 1 26-27

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime Support	G07	G07	G07	G07	G07
Independent Study Set & Due			Maths Science	Geography (week A) MFL (week B)	English
Lunchtime Detentions	English		Maths	Science	Geography/ MFL (half termly) SLT Escalation DT

KS4 Independent Study Timetable: Term 1 26-27

KS4		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime Support		G07	G07	G07	G07	G07
Independent Study Set & Due S = Sparx/Seneca P = Paper-based assignments	Year 10	English P Option B Option D	Option A	Maths S&P Science S Option C		English S Science P
	Year 11	English P Option B	Option C	Maths S&P Science S Option A Option D		English S Science P
Detentions		English		Maths	Science	Options Humanities* SLT Escalation DT