

Home Learning Policy

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Thomas Deacon Academy Home Learning Policy

1. Policy statement

- 1.1 At Thomas Deacon Academy, all students are expected to do home learning regularly as outlined in the policy.
- 1.2 We aim to foster a culture where students, parents and all stakeholders value home learning and understand its contribution to students' success as learners.
- 1.3 Home learning should enable students to be curious in different subject areas and show commitment in their ability to complete home learning in a timely manner. We expect every child to show confidence in completing their home learning weekly using **Microsoft Teams** and other digital packages.

2. Purpose of Home learning

- 2.1 At TDA, home learning supports and encourages students to develop independent study skills, organisational skills, effective time management and self-discipline. Our home learning policy is designed to support students with developing the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life as well as provide them with opportunities to further consolidate the skills they develop in lessons. We aim to promote blended learning (digital and teacher led) through both in-academy and at home learning.
- 2.2 All home learning is carefully matched to the school curriculum so that it contributes to learning in the classroom.

3. Types of home learning

- 3.1 At all key stages, students will access their home learning via TEAMS Assignments, where they will be directed to the correct platforms of digital resources to support learning and to further support consolidation. Home learning is also documented on MCAS BromCom, this is taken from information assigned on Teams.
- 3.2 Digital platforms are utilised for home learning across all Key Stages.

KS3

- 3.3 At KS3 students will be set home learning weekly via TEAMS assignments for all core subjects and MFL. This will also show on the student and teacher's individual TEAMS calendars and on MCAS BromCom.
- 3.4 Students in Key Stage 3 are expected to complete a minimum of 15 minutes per day of reading, utilising their accelerated reader book provided by the English department.
- 3.5 Students in Key Stage 3 are expected to complete one home learning assignment per week in Maths, using the digital platform SPARX Maths. This should be completed at home and will feed into the Maths curriculum delivered in lessons.
- 3.6 Students in Key Stage 3 are expected to complete one home learning assignment per week in Science, using the digital platform Tassomai. This should be completed at home and will feed into the Science curriculum.
- 3.7 Students in Key Stage 3 will also be expected to complete one digital home learning assignment for MFL to support their understanding of languages. This home learning will be set by the classroom teacher on the digital platform 'ActiveLearn'.

KS4

- 3.9 At KS4, students will be expected to complete **one hour of home learning per fortnight** in each subject they study, a total of up to 9 subjects. Students have access to online learning platforms GCSE POD, Tassomai and Sparx (as well as other digital resources) for all subjects, which they can use independently to further their own learning and revision above and beyond the 1 hour expected.
- 3.10 Students will be set any revision resources via TEAMS assignments. This will also show on the student and teacher's individual TEAMS calendars and on MCAS BromCom

KS5

- 3.11 At KS5, students should complete Independent Study for a minimum of **3 hours per fortnight** for each subject they study, alongside the 7 hours of study that takes place within the academy.
- 3.12 In addition to this, the following types of home learning may be set:
- research, including use of internet;
 - consolidation of learning activities;
 - pre-lesson in learning - e.g. read an article, make notes, watch video etc;
 - reviewing the work covered that week;
 - studying and learning notes/vocabulary;
 - drafting and redrafting work;
 - watching or listening to YouTube videos/podcasts;
 - collecting information from newspapers, etc;
 - projects;
 - preparing for presentations.

- 3.13 Students are expected to manage their time well and are expected to do one hour of independent study for every hour of classroom study. They are afforded some of this time during the school day.
- 3.14 Students will be set all home learning weekly via TEAMS assignments. This will also show on the student and teacher's individual TEAMS calendars and also on MCAS BromCom
- 3.15 Further to the expectations outlined above, KS5 students should be doing some wider reading.

4. Support and monitoring

All Key Stages

- 4.1 Students that struggle to access Microsoft Teams for their home learning need to communicate this to their tutor. The tutor will then provide the student with a home learning diary to aid organisation of home learning.
- 4.2 For students not completing their home learning, the procedures detailed in the Behaviour Policy will apply.
- 4.3 Students will receive feedback on their home learning. This could be instant feedback if they are using a digital resource which is then followed up by the teacher or department, or feedback given in class leading to Feedback Improvement Time tasks.

5. Role of parents/guardians

All Key Stages

- 5.1 Parents/Guardians should check their child's TEAMS site or MCAS BromCom app for their calendar of expected assignments, to support their child with managing their time effectively. They should also ensure there is a quiet space available for their child to study away from any distractions.
- 5.2 Parents should ask their children about the books they are reading and utilise Accelerate Reader quizzes to try and support their understanding and coherence of the text.

6. Role of leaders

- 6.1 Heads of Department (HODs) and Heads of Year (HOY) are responsible for ensuring all home learning has been uploaded onto Teams, to ensure clear communication around expectations of home learning for each subject area.
- 6.2 Support guides and documents need to be saved under the relevant assignment on TEAMS to help parents support their child whilst learning at home.
- 6.3 HODs and their teams are responsible for all KS3 home learning. HODs/SLs should ensure that KS3 students have access to Teams. They should ensure detentions are logged for any students who miss deadlines. Tutors will ensure students understand if they need to attend a detention.
- 6.4 HODs and their teams are responsible for all KS3, KS4 and KS5 home learning. Through working with their team, they should ensure 100% completion of KS3/

KS4/KS5 home learnings each week. They should ensure detentions are logged for any students who miss deadlines.

6.5 Senior leaders have an overview of home learning across the academy and ensure that the impact of home learning is reviewed regularly.

7. **Remote Learning**

7.1 If the need should arise for students to work remotely, work will be set using Teams as per other home learning.