RESILIENCE · RESPECT · INTEGRITY · COMMUNITY
The Ongar Academy, Fyfield Road, Ongar, CM5 0AN
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Tel: 01277 500990
Email: communications@theongaracademy.org
Website: www.theongaracademy.org
Headteacher: Mr. J. Sands
Deputy Headteacher: Ms. R. Gilbert

October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to you with regards to homework at The Ongar Academy. Our aim for homework is to encourage independent learning, support students to develop self-discipline and personal organisation, and reinforce and extend the learning that takes place in school.

Homework

Students in Year 7, 8 and 9 will be set compulsory homework for Maths, English, and Science. These tasks will be set by the Head of Faculty and will develop retrieval practice using a range of activities, including interleaving tasks and topics.

In Year 10 and 11, students will be set homework for their GCSE subjects by either their class teacher, Head of Faculty, or a mixture of both.

Tasks will be set on EduLink, and students will be given an appropriate amount of time to complete the homework.

As with other areas within the school, the focus will be on rewarding students for completing homework, rather than sanctioning students who are unable to complete it. Students will not receive detentions for failing to complete homework, but staff will be encouraged to contact parents and offer additional support if appropriate.

Extended Learning

In addition to homework, students will also be given the opportunity to complete **Extended Learning** activities which will further encourage them to become confident, independent learners and to develop a passion and knowledge for subjects outside of what is covered through the curriculum. Activities for all subjects on our SharePoint platform; these involve a wide range of activities from writing reviews in Art and Drama, to developing training plans and producing match analysis in PE.

Extended Learning activities are optional but will contribute significantly towards students working **Above Expectations** in each subject area, as they will be demonstrating how they can take ownership for their own learning. Students that complete extended learning activities will receive additional rewards points, in line with our behaviour policy and, more importantly, develop a deeper knowledge and broader appreciation for subjects.

As mentioned above, all extended learning activities are located on SharePoint, which can now be accessed directly from EduLink, or our website, by logging in to Microsoft Office 365.

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Video tutorials to find the relevant resources can be found here:

- Extended Learning - EduLink.mp4
- Extended Learning - Website.mp4

It is our hope that together we can create a supportive learning environment that empowers our students to reach their full potential and develop an interest and passion for learning.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement,

Mr Will Ritchie

Assistant Headteacher
Email: writchie@theongaracademy.org

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