

Study Skills



How to be an effective learner at Key Stage 3

Organisation

One of the keys to being a successful learner in secondary school is organisation. The **Personal Organiser** is the key tool to help students and they should use it every day to:

- Check their timetable and ensure they are fully equipped for the day
- Record homework with instructions and deadline
- Monitor their homework completion and tick off completed tasks

Homework

Homework is a key part of learning and progress and helps students to consolidate learning, deepen understanding, practise a new skill, investigate a new topic or revise content in preparation for an assessment.

Effective learners:

- Have a dedicated time every day for homework completion
- Work in a quiet space with minimal distractions
- Keep all mobile phones and other devices in a different room whilst doing homework

After-school Homework Club is available for students who need support with homework or who may need access to ICT equipment or simply a quiet space to work.

Revision and self-study

Students will be assessed regularly and developing good study habits in Key Stage 3 helps to prepare them for effective study at GCSE. Retrieval practice (testing what they know) is a powerful tool in revision; the effort it takes to remember something really **strengthens your memory!** It also helps learners to **identify what they don't know** and so helps prioritise what to study next. KS3 students learn about specific revision methods and study skills in their PSE lessons.

Parents/carers can support their child by:

- Checking (and signing) their personal organisers regularly
- Embedding homework routines and habits
- Helping them to pack their bags with all necessary equipment
- Asking them about school and what they're learning
- Having high expectations and using positive language to talk about school
- Ensuring they get enough sleep
- Ensuring they eat breakfast and have healthy snacks
- Instilling resilience and a "bounce-back" mentality

