

# Independent study in Psychology



Independent study is a vital part of learning in Psychology and developing the skills you need beyond the classroom. The 'Learning to fly' document gives guidance on the kinds of habits and practices we ask you to develop and we consider these to be the most important element of your routine. Your teachers will also give you regular pieces of directed homework to develop your skills and understanding.

**In Year 12** we expect you to:

- Spend **two hours** a week independently reviewing your learning and developing your understanding of the subject through wider critical reading
- **Two hours** a week completing directed tasks
- **If no directed tasks are set then you should use all 4 hours to work independently**

**In Year 13** we expect you to:

- Spend **three hours** a week independently reviewing your learning and developing your understanding of the subject through wider critical reading
- **Two hours** a week completing directed tasks
- **If no directed tasks are set then you should use all 5 hours to work independently**

The Psychology Department promises to:

- Always give you homework that is **purposeful** and which will have a positive impact on your learning and skills development
- Give you clear guidance about **how** to complete the homework when it is set
- Acknowledge the work you put in and do all we can to give you useful written or verbal feedback in a timely fashion

In return, we expect you to:

- Complete homework at a time and in a place when you can give it your full attention
- Spend the whole of the prescribed time focusing on the task
- Ask your teacher for help **well** in advance of the due date if you are unsure how to complete the task or if you need advice or guidance
- Be ambitious in every piece of work, challenging yourself to be the best you can be in, for example, your use of psychological terminology.
- Always spend time planning and checking your work.
- Read **and act on** the feedback you are given.