

Year 7 – IT Systems and Homework

Dear Year 7 Parents

I am writing to provide you with information about three key elements which support the learning process: our IT systems, homework and Year 7 Curriculum Guide.

I. IT Systems

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) scheme

As you will know from the information you received from us before your child joined the school, we require all students to bring a mobile device into school to support teaching and learning. These bring significant additional opportunities because students can make use of their device to connect to the internet as part of their lessons:

- Online quizzes for immediate feedback on learning
- Accessing shared lesson and homework resources in Google Classroom
- Photographing/videoing practical work
- Research
- Accessing specific learning resources in subjects such as maths and languages
- Accessing GCSE past papers and mark schemes

It is therefore essential that your child has a fully charged mobile device in school every day.

We have spent the last few days making sure that all Year 7 students are finally connected to the school wifi system. This is a filtered system which means that students cannot access inappropriate websites. Our BYOD Code of Conduct requires students to use the wifi when in school. If your child is still having problems getting connected, they can contact our IT Services team for support by sending an email to: itservices@gillotts.org

If they are unable to send an email, they should let their form tutor know who will be able to access further help.

All documents relating to the school's BYOD scheme can be accessed on the school's website under [teaching and learning](#).

Google Classroom

Google Classroom is a very important application which allows teachers to set work and share resources with the students in their class. It is therefore essential that your child understands how to use it. If they are unsure, they should let their form tutor know.

EduLink

EduLink is an online platform available as an app or through any web browser, that allows parents to view 'live' information relating to their child. This includes achievements, behaviours, homework, attendance, timetables, reports and much more. You can also report absences through EduLink, and update contact information when appropriate. Students can also access the app version or web browser version to view similar information.

All new parents and students will have received their EduLink login details at the start of the school year (including links for downloading the app). If you have not received this information, please contact your child's House administrator.

You will be able to access the app and any information directly from any website browser using this web address:
www.edulinkone.com

2. Homework

We believe that homework is a very important part of the learning process. This is, in part, to support the teaching and learning which takes place in school. It also helps our students develop the independent learning skills that will support them in their post-16 studies and adult life.

While I am sure that all Year 7 students will have had some homework set at their primary schools, the number of different subjects and the amount of homework is likely to be much greater now they have moved to secondary school.

The homework itself and any resources required to complete it will be posted by your child's teacher on Google Classroom. The students will receive a notification of this in their e-mail in box and will also be able to see it in the class folders in Google Classroom. It is important that your child follows the instructions given by their teacher.

It is an absolute requirement that homework is completed and submitted on the deadline set. The expectation is that students spend around one hour per night on homework in Year 7.

The table below shows the number of times homework should be set in each subject per fortnight and the approximate time it should take:

Subject	Frequency	Time (Approximate)
English	Weekly	45 mins per week
Maths	2 x Weekly	45 mins per week
Science	Weekly	45 mins per week
Art	Fortnightly	30 mins per fortnight
Carousel (Computing, Design Technology, Drama, Food)	Weekly	30 mins per week
French	Weekly	45 mins per week
Humanities (Geography, History, RS)	Fortnightly	30 mins per fortnight
Music	Fortnightly	30 mins per fortnight

The school homework timetable can be found on our school website under [teaching and learning/curriculum](#) (scroll down the page to the link to the 'live homework timetable').

Your child should know which class they are in for each subject as this is recorded on the front of their exercise books and on the printed copy of their timetable. If they are still unsure, please contact your child's tutor who will be able to help.

I would like to encourage you to discuss with your child how well they feel they are managing this aspect of the transition from primary school. It is also very important that parents use Edulink to ensure that their child is managing to complete homework by the deadline date.

From Monday 6th October 2025, teachers will start to record details of any students who have not completed homework by the deadline set on our management information system. Parents will be alerted to this via Edulink. If your child misses two homework deadlines in a subject in a term they will be set an after-school detention by their subject teacher in line with the school's Behaviour for Learning Policy.

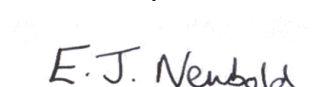
3. Year 7 Curriculum Guide

We have also updated the [Year 7 Curriculum Guide](#) that can be downloaded from the school website.

This document provides details of the topics that your child will be studying in each subject over the coming year and what you can do as a parent to support your child.

In the meantime, if you have any concerns about your child's ability to manage their homework, please contact your child's form tutor.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E.J. Newbold". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'E' and 'J'.

Dr Newbold

Deputy Head