



## RAWMARSH COMMUNITY SCHOOL

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MCO/JRO

26<sup>th</sup> September 2025

### Subject: Key Stage 4 Homework and Academic Support Structure

Dear Parents and Carers,

As your child progresses through Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11), the partnership between home and school becomes even more critical to their success. In preparation for their final GCSE examinations, we are implementing a structured homework timetable to complement our after-school P5 revision sessions. This framework is designed to build student independence, ensure consistent progress, and provide targeted support where it is most needed.

#### The Importance of Independent Study at Key Stage 4

Meaningful independent study is the cornerstone of success at GCSE level. It is the primary way for students to take ownership of their learning. The purpose of our homework is to:

- **Recall & Consolidate:** Embed crucial knowledge required for terminal exams.
- **Apply & Practice:** Hone exam techniques and apply understanding to new problems.
- **Extend & Revise:** Address gaps in learning, revise topics, and prepare for upcoming lessons.

Developing a disciplined routine of nightly study is proven to reduce exam-related stress and significantly improve final grades. It allows learning to be spaced over time, which is far more effective than last-minute cramming.

#### Enhanced Support: Compulsory After-School Intervention Sessions

In addition to the setting of regular homework, to ensure every student can achieve their potential, we offer a proactive, after-school support programme. These are not just for students who are falling behind; they are compulsory for all students to address misconceptions early, close learning gaps, and build exam confidence.

The sessions will run on a fortnightly rotating schedule, with the first week focusing on English, Maths and Science, and the second week focusing on each student's Options subjects:

- **Week 1:** Core Subject Focus (English, Maths, Science)
- **Week 2:** Option Subject Focus

Students may be specifically invited by their teachers to attend a session to work on a particular topic. We strongly encourage all students to attend these sessions to strengthen their understanding. Early and regular preparation is the key to success. Students who start their revision early are the students who reach or exceed their targets at the end of Year 11.

Teachers will make the specific schedule clear to students. Many subjects will set homework via **online platforms**, such as SENECA and CompleteMaths, and students will receive all necessary guidance and login details at school. Some subjects also utilise Google Classroom as the main platform for setting homework activities.

#### Weekly Homework Timetable

You will find a copy of the homework calendar for Year 10 and Year 11 students and links to the common online platforms enclosed at the end of this letter. Please display this at home to refer to when discussing homework completion with your child.

We expect Y10 and Y11 students to dedicate a minimum of **30-40 minutes per subject** for their homework each evening, and have allocated additional times for students to complete independent revision or

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consolidation of the content they have covered in lessons each week. This commitment is essential for covering the depth and breadth of the GCSE curriculum.

Some aspects of the calendar relevant to Year 10 and Y11 students:

- **Directed Reading:** This session is specifically for reading linked to the English Literature set texts or other curriculum-related reading, which is vital for exam success.
- **Independent revision:** Students should use the online platforms provided / their own class work to create revision materials for specific subjects. Creating flashcards or revision notes the week after content has been taught can provide students with highly effective materials and identify areas they need further support from their teachers.
- **Online Platforms:** A significant amount of homework will continue to be set and submitted via online platforms. This provides instant access to resources and allows you to monitor the work set.

### **A Shared Responsibility: Our Expectations**

#### **Our Commitment (Teacher Expectations):**

- To set high-quality, exam-focused homework that adheres to the timetable.
- To provide timely and targeted feedback that helps students understand how to improve.
- To use online platforms effectively to support student learning.
- To run purposeful and effective after-school intervention sessions.
- To offer Homework Club each day after school - students are welcome to attend and access our computer facilities after school each day.

#### **Student Expectations:**

- To take full ownership of their learning by completing all homework to a high standard and by the deadline.
- To manage their time effectively, dedicating the required time each evening to complete homework activities to their full potential.
- To proactively revise and identify areas where they need support.
- To attend all intervention sessions they are invited to and act on the guidance given.
- To communicate with teachers if they are struggling with a topic *before* it becomes a major issue.

#### **How You Can Support (Parent & Carer Expectations):**

- **Champion the routine:** Help your child protect their evening study time and provide a quiet, distraction-free environment.
- **Support attendance:** Encourage and ensure your child attends after-school support sessions when invited.
- **Stay informed:** Use the online platforms to stay aware of homework deadlines and your child's progress.
- **Encourage balance:** Ensure your child balances their studies with adequate rest, nutrition, and downtime to support their well-being.
- **Communicate with us:** Please contact your child's subject teacher or Head of Year if you have any concerns about their workload, progress, or well-being.

We are confident that this clear structure will empower your child to meet the challenges of their GCSEs with confidence and discipline. Establishing strong routines now will result in less stress and greater success during the all-important examination window at the end of Year 11.

Thank you for your unwavering support.

Yours sincerely,



Mark Conlin  
Headteacher





## KS4 Weekly Homework Timetable

We expect Y10 and Y11 students to dedicate a minimum of **30-40 minutes per subject** for their homework each evening, and have allocated additional times for students to complete independent revision or consolidation of the content they have covered in lessons each week. This commitment is essential for covering the depth and breadth of the GCSE curriculum.

WEEK	DAY	Y10	Y11
WEEK 1	MONDAY	English	Option 1
WEEK 1	TUESDAY	Maths	Option 2
WEEK 1	WEDNESDAY	Science	Option 3
WEEK 1	THURSDAY	Directed Reading / Independent revision	Option 4
WEEK 1	FRIDAY	Directed Reading / Independent revision	Directed Reading / Independent revision
WEEK 2	MONDAY	Option 1	English
WEEK 2	TUESDAY	Option 2	Maths
WEEK 2	WEDNESDAY	Option 3	Science
WEEK 2	THURSDAY	Directed Reading / Independent revision	Directed Reading / Independent revision
WEEK 2	FRIDAY	Directed Reading / Independent revision	Directed Reading / Independent revision

**Option Subjects:** "Option 1, 2, 3, 4" refers to your child's specific GCSE option choices. Their teachers will set homework on the designated day.

- **Directed Reading:** This session is specifically for reading linked to the English Literature set texts or other curriculum-related reading, which is vital for exam success.
- **Independent revision:** Students should use the online platforms provided / their own class work to create revision materials for specific subjects. Creating flashcards or revision notes the week after content has been taught can provide students with highly effective materials and identify areas they need further support from their teachers.
- **Online Platforms:** A significant amount of homework will continue to be set and submitted via online platforms. This provides instant access to resources and allows you to monitor the work set.

		
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