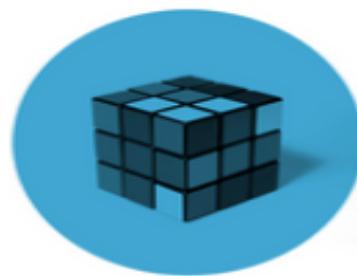


Independent Learning

Independent Learning

Research in the last decade has begun to focus on the relationship between independent learning and student achievement and has shown a clear resulting improvement, particularly for students at secondary school. At Childwall Sport and Science Academy we believe that independent learning assignments form a vital part of students' learning experiences, helping to embed knowledge and skills acquired in class and providing young people with an opportunity to develop a range of crucial learning habits including independent thinking, creativity, resilience and initiative.



Why is independent learning important?

- It can develop ***inquisitiveness***, by providing opportunities for long term **research** and other work.
- It can develop ***collaboration***, by involving parents and others in the learning process and so providing an important **motivational** function.
- It can develop ***persistence***, by allowing students to develop their ability to work **independently**.
- It can develop ***discipline***, by allowing valuable **practice** and extension of skills, knowledge and understanding learned in the classroom.
- It can develop ***imagination***, by allowing students to use materials and other sources of information that are **not always available in the classroom**.

Key Stage 3 Independent Learning Expectations

There is a suggested duration of around 30 minutes per independent learning task set in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9.

Key Stage 4 Independent Learning Expectations

It is expected that KS4 students should have between 60 and 90 minutes of independent learning per subject per week. Staff have agreed with students they teach in Years 10 and 11 when independent learning will be set .

Key Stage 5 Independent Learning Expectations

It is expected that for every hour of lesson time, students in the post-16 centre will do one hour of independent study as home learning. Staff will set independent learning that amounts to this quantity.

Other ways you can help with reading and mathematics

Your child's literacy and numeracy skills are critical to their long-term development; the importance of daily, personalised practice of reading and mathematics cannot be overstated. Recent studies indicate that when students spend 25 minutes a day reading suitably challenging books, then they will achieve optimal reading age growth. You may not be reading with your child as you did at primary school but you can still support good reading habits. Talk to your child about the books you're both reading. Ask what books your child would like for birthday and Christmas presents. Go to the library together - if your child is stuck for a new author, ask the librarian for guidance or look online at book reviews. You could also take a look at our reading recommendation.

Similarly, students make most progress in maths when they practise little and often. In addition to the work they will be set by their class teacher, all children in years 7 to 11 have received a login to an online platform Hegarty Maths, packed full of practice questions, that will complement their learning in class.

Two hours' homework a night linked to better school results

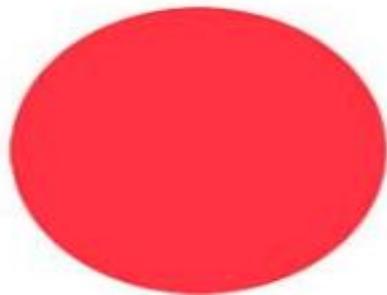
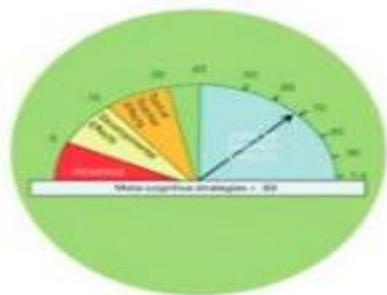
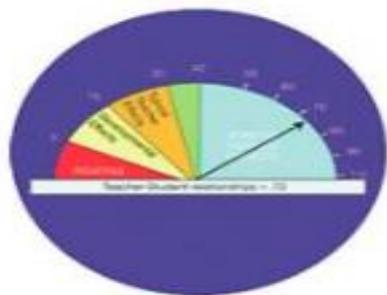
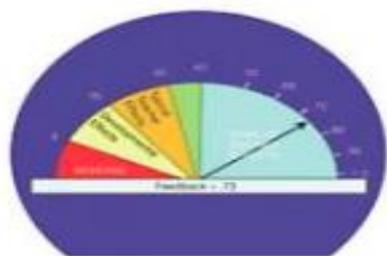
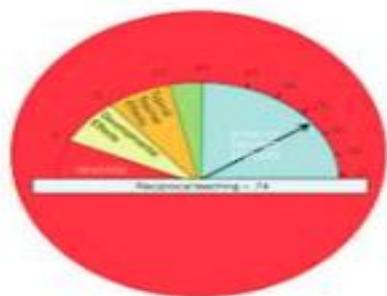
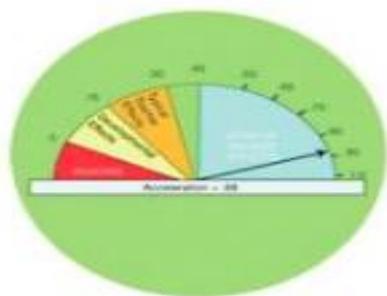
Any time spent on homework shows benefits, according to study published by Department for Education

the **guardian**

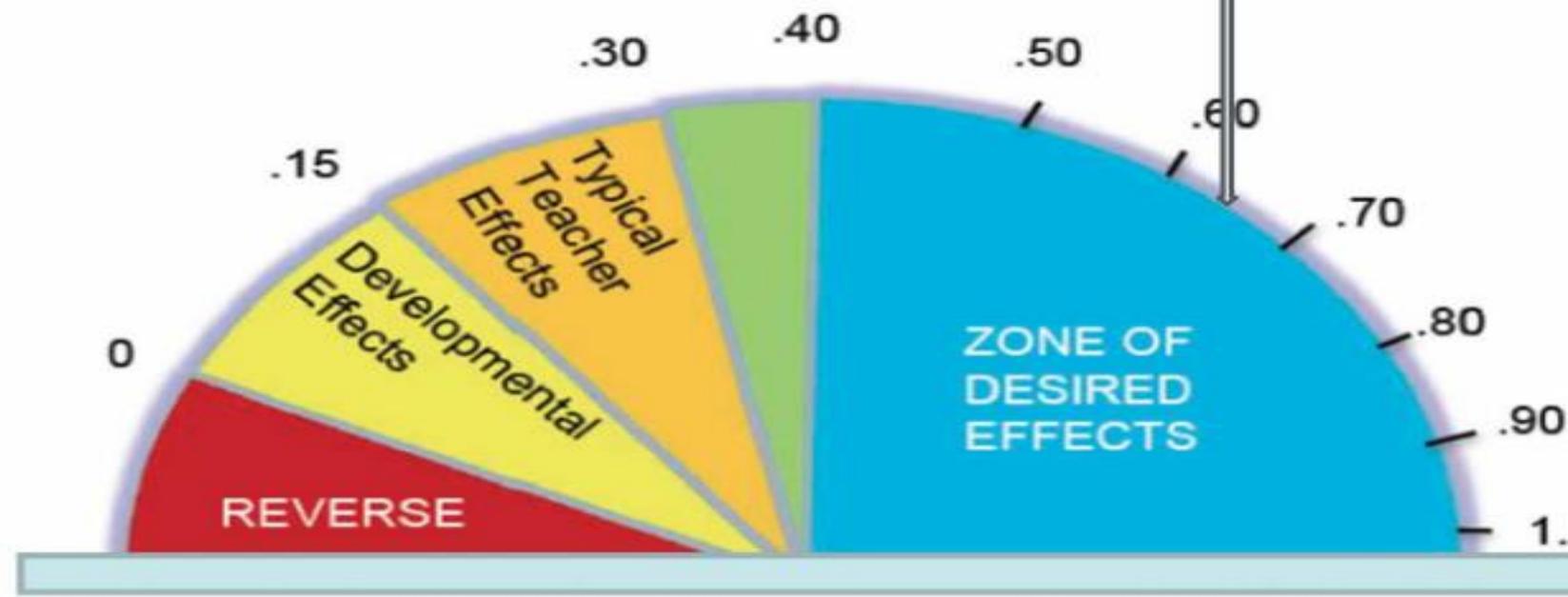
VISIBLE LEARNING

A SYNTHESIS OF OVER
800 META-ANALYSES
RELATING TO ACHIEVEMENT

Independent learning has an effect size of 0.64 at secondary school!



JOHN HATTIE



Keep them in the struggle zone



Online learning resources

This is a further list of free online learning resources that might be of interest:

[Khan Academy](#)

Especially good for maths and computing for all ages but other subjects at Secondary level. Note this uses the U.S. grade system but it's mostly common material.

[BBC Bitesize](#)

[quizlet.com](#)

Students can log in using their school Google account (school email and school password).

[Exploration of the Day](#)

Kerri Smith's wonderful daily creativity workout.

[Futurelearn](#)

Free to access 100s of courses, only pay to upgrade if you need a certificate in your name (own account from age 14+ but younger learners can use a parent account).

[Seneca](#)

For those revising at GCSE or A-level. Tons of free revision content. Paid access to higher level material.

[Openlearn](#)

Free taster courses aimed at those considering Open University but everyone can access it. Adult level, but some e.g. nature and environment courses could well be of interest to young people.

[Blockly](#)

Learn computer programming skills - fun and free.

[Scratch](#)

Creative computer programming.

[Ted Ed](#)

All sorts of engaging educational videos

[Family Zone Literacy Trust website](#)

[Duolingo](#)

Learn languages for free. Web or app.

[Mystery Science](#)

Free science lessons.

[Crash Course](#)

You Tube videos on many subjects.

[Crest Awards](#)

Science awards you can complete from home.

[iDEA Awards](#)

Digital enterprise award scheme you can complete online.

[Big History Project](#)

Aimed at Secondary age. Multi disciplinary activities.

[Geography Games](#)

Geography gaming!

[The Artful Parent](#)

Good, free art activities.

[DK Find Out](#)

Activities and quizzes.

[Twinkl](#)

This is more for printouts, and usually at a fee, but they are offering a month of free access to parents in the event of school closures – enter the code UKTWINKLHELPS.

[Audible](#)

Free audio books on a wide range of topics, from literary classics to teen fiction.