



Bridlington School

Independent Learning Policy



Approved by:

Last reviewed on:

Next review due by: Summer Term 2026

Previously Known as Homework Policy

1. Statement of Intent

The purpose of this policy is to promote a culture of Independent Learning where students take ownership of their progress, develop critical thinking and problem solving skills and prepare themselves for lifelong learning beyond formal education.

At Bridlington School, Independent Learning is built upon our TORCH values of:

Teamwork

Students learn independently but also recognise the value of working with their teachers and parents/carers to make progress.

Opportunity

Independent learning creates opportunities for students to explore interests, develop strengths, and close gaps in knowledge.

Respect

Students respect their own learning and development by taking responsibility for deadlines, quality, and effort.

Community

Independent learning helps students become active contributors to the school community by developing skills of responsibility, independence and initiative.

Happiness

Independent learning promotes a sense of achievement and pride, building confidence and wellbeing.

2. Roles and responsibilities

The Governing Body has overall responsibility for the implementation of the Independent Learning Policy.

The Headteacher has responsibility for annually monitoring and reviewing the policy and for handling complaints regarding this policy as outlined in the school's Complaints Policy.

Curriculum Leaders are responsible for the day-to-day implementation and management of the Independent Learning Policy within their curriculum areas.

Teachers and Tutors are responsible for promoting the value of Independent Learning tasks as part of The Study Cycle and for rewarding completion.

Students are responsible for meeting the expectations around completing Independent Learning tasks every week.

Parents/Carers can support students by helping them to regularly complete Independent Learning, making it clear that they value Independent Learning and support the school expectations and by offering encouragement and praise when Independent Learning is completed.

3. What students need to do

Independent learning is accessed on [Sparx Maths](#), [Sparx Science](#), [Sparx Reader](#) and Pearson Active Learn (French) for KS3 and KS4 and Microsoft Teams for KS5. In Y8 and 9 IT students will also use turinglab.com.

Where appropriate, some subjects may set practical activities for completion such as Independent Learning, for example Physical Education setting physical challenges or Performing Arts rehearsing performances.

Staff within curriculum teams will monitor progress with Independent Learning and students will be rewarded with stamps when they meet Independent Learning expectations in each curriculum area.

In KS3 and KS4 students are expected to complete a total of approximately 2 hours of Independent Learning per week. Learning will be in small chunks and focus on retrieval of prior knowledge as part of The Study Cycle.

In KS5 (Years 12 and 13) independent work will be set weekly. Students are expected to complete one hour of independent learning for each hour of lesson time in each subject. For example, when students are taught for five hours in a subject over a week, they are expected to complete five hours of independent study for that subject in that week. Students in KS5 (Year 12 and 13) are expected to complete independent work on site outside of their timetabled lessons. To assist students with managing their time for independent learning, each student will have five hours of independent study sessions identified on their timetable.

4. In School Support

In all Key Stages, students are supported to learn independently:

- In KS3, there are a number of Independent Learning Clubs available.
- In KS4, #overtoyou sessions are available in the Sixth Form Centre every day after school.
- In KS5, staff arrange sessions with their groups or times when they will be available to provide support. The Sixth Form Centre is also open every weekday for support.

5. Learning Platform Details and logging on

All our learning platforms now use Single Sign-On (SSO), which makes logging in much easier.

Students simply need to use their school email and computer password. If they are already signed into their school account on office.com, these sites should log them in automatically when they click "Continue with Microsoft" or "Sign in with Microsoft".

To speed up logins inside of school, we recommend students use the Microsoft Edge browser, as it's set up to automatically sign all staff and students into office365.

Microsoft Teams Assignments (KS5) - Year 12 and Year 13 will be set regular independent learning tasks (assignments) through Microsoft Teams including essays, exercise questions, quizzes, research activities and also reading and comprehension tasks. Students submit completed tasks in Microsoft Teams or hand in written work so that teachers can provide feedback where appropriate.

6. In the event of school closure

In the event of a full or partial school closure, students are expected to continue their learning remotely. All independent learning tasks will be set and managed through Microsoft Teams and our other school-approved online learning platforms. Teachers will provide clear instructions, deadlines, and necessary resources for each task. Students should check Microsoft Teams for updates from their teachers. Work may include a range of activities such as reading and comprehension tasks, research activities, quizzes, assignments, and extended written tasks. Where possible, live or recorded lessons may be provided to support understanding and maintain curriculum continuity.

Students must submit completed work by the deadlines set by teachers, either through Microsoft Teams or in any alternative format specified by the teacher. Teachers will continue to monitor engagement, assess submitted work, and provide feedback where appropriate.

During school closures, it is the responsibility of all students to ensure they have access to their school email accounts and are able to log in to Microsoft Teams using their Single Sign-On (SSO). Support for technical issues will be available through the school's IT services.