

Providing Support and Challenge at Home

Supporting reading

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.

Supporting home study

Studying at home comes predominantly through our college homework – which is set on our online platform Show My Homework. Regular, quality homework set by your teachers helps to develop learner independence and self-management. Homework can also be complemented by our Cooperative Learning Projects, available on our school website. These projects, aimed at our Key Stage 3 students, help to grow research and analytical skills. Studying at home is also an effective default learning strategy. Encouraging your child to read through their exercise books, create flash cards of key topics, glossaries of key terms and mind maps of taught units, will help to develop important study habits for exams and assessments.

Developing social awareness

Keeping up-to-date with the news helps with schoolwork. Try to encourage your child to read a newspaper or relevant blog at least once or twice a week. Find news stories that connect to lesson topics. If your child is researching a subject, suggest the online archives of a good newspaper, blog or the BBC website. If your child uses social media, following key interest figures on Twitter for example, can be a useful way of developing a social, critical literacy.

Supporting cultural literacy

If you're planning a day out, visit a museum or gallery that will tie in with work your child is doing in subjects such as Art, English, History, Geography or Science - this can be an engaging way to add depth and interest to your child's learning.