

# TEACHING AND LEARNING

## AUTUMN TERM UPDATE

### HOMEWORK AND SELF-DIRECTED STUDY

Following our parental consultation on homework last year, student voice and our work with departments, we have been continuing to develop our homework policy so that it supports all of our students to thrive and become confident, independent learners. Our subject teams are working hard to put together homework plans to ensure in each subject area homework is regular, purposeful and there are supporting resources and advice for students and parents. We hope to publish these resources on our website in the Spring term. Our new homework and self-directed study policy can also be found here: <https://www.uvhs.uk/homework-and-self-directed-study-policy>.



This term all of our students will receive a study skills assembly about effective homework routines, and there is loads of useful information support students and parents with homework on the BBC Bitesize study skills website: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/groups/cp60w97z7y1t>. For those students who forget to complete their homework, we will be sending an email reminder to parents so that you are able to track and monitor your child's homework. We would like to thank you all for continuing to support this important aspect of your child's education.

### ROUTINES FOR LEARNING

Effective and consistent routines are essential for creating a safe and purposeful learning environment for all our students. This year, as part of our focus on teaching and learning, we have introduced three common routines that pupils will use in every lesson: **Ready to Learn**, **Ready to Listen** and **Ready to Leave**.

Our **Ready to Learn** routine aims to ensure that every minute of every lesson counts, and students are ready to start learning straight away. Our teachers will meet and greet all students at the door, demonstrating and modelling the kindness and respect that form such an important part of our Victoria Values. Students will be expected to enter the classroom silently, and get started on their 'Do Now Activity' straight away, collecting any equipment they need from their teacher at the start of the lesson.

Our **Ready to Listen** routine is a common routine that we have introduced with our Year 7 students this term, although other year groups will be introduced to this routine soon. This routine aims to ensure all students are actively listening during teacher explanations and class discussions. **'Attend'** is one of our Victoria Values, and this routine ensures all students can benefit from a calm and purposeful atmosphere in every classroom.

Our **Ready to Leave** routine is our end of lesson routine, students will be expected to tidy their classroom and area, returning any learning resources to their teacher. Once their area is tidy, students will wait silently behind their chairs, before being dismissed row by row. This routine aims to ensure a calm and orderly atmosphere where all pupils feel safe and supported.

We are really proud of the positive start that our students have made in their lessons this term. We look forward to them continuing to experience success.

**'EVERY CHILD IS VALUED, SUPPORTED AND  
EMPOWERED TO ACHIEVE THEIR UNIQUE POTENTIAL'**