

# How to study independently



Lymm High School Sixth Form





## What does independent learning look like?

- During your GCSEs, doing your homework may have been the only thing you did outside the classroom.
- At Level 3, this simply isn't enough and you must develop independent study habits.
- Remember we are trying to encourage you to work a 40 hour week and doing so will make you a very successful student 😊
- Use the activities on the slides which follow to identify how you should study independently in each of your subjects.



In 'Art' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Check your annotation makes sense and is written in an academic style (AO3)
- ✓ Plan a photo-shoot that is inspired by your current theme. (AO2)
- ✓ Use the analysis guide to help you develop your analysis of artist research further.
- ✓ Go onto student art guide <https://www.studentartguide.com/> and read art articles or view excellent examples of students work from across the country.
- ✓ Ensure all websites and articles have been recorded as a bibliography at the back of your sketchbook.
- ✓ Re – draft your essay, based on feedback.
- ✓ Create a definitions list of words to help describe artwork.
- ✓ Work through your personalised learning checklist, check all of your notes are complete.
- ✓ Ensure you have written a response to all FAR marking and all actions have been completed.
- ✓ Research what exhibitions are on currently and plan a trip. (AO1 – Primary Research)
- ✓ Create an Art themed Instagram account and upload your work to gain feedback and critique. (AO3)
- ✓ Contact artists that you have researched to gain valuable insight into their work (AO1 - Primary Research)
- ✓ Complete further observational drawings - you can never have enough!! (AO3).



In 'BTEC Sport Level 3' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Check you have completed all of your notes
- ✓ Create a 'mock' scenario on the topic you are learning and apply your knowledge to this.
- ✓ Ensure you highlight key words, command words and technical language for the subject in your notes. If you are unsure of the meaning, find this out to ensure you are using key vocabulary in the appropriate context.
- ✓ Past Paper Practice – familiarise yourself with the format of questioning, work through the past paper exam revision pack. Extra practice is an invaluable way of refining exam technique and consolidating knowledge
- ✓ Read all sections from all the textbooks, journals you have been recommended "BTEC Level 3 National Sport Book 1 and Book 2 and also Google Scholar" – make sure you have made notes on both textbooks and journals for every topic you have studied
- ✓ If available use your knowledge organiser to test yourself on what you know
- ✓ Re read notes from Yr 12 and make bullet points for each topic to cover the key concepts.
- ✓ Watch relevant YouTube videos to recap your knowledge, after you have watched them write down the key ideas and then re watch to see what you have remembered.
- ✓ Enhance your knowledge further by applying them to current situations that occurring in the sporting sector. As the work produced is scenario based this will aid when referencing examples.



In 'BTEC Level 3 Fashion' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Continue to toile garments for you collection.
- ✓ Photograph each stage of the making process and create a visual diary of making.
- ✓ Create a body of samples in a range of fabrics to support design ideas.
- ✓ Check your annotation makes sense and is written in an academic style.
- ✓ Plan a photo-shoot for your final Look Book (Unit 16).
- ✓ Develop an independent project on a specific theme for your portfolio. This could be linked to politics, in the news, or an area of fashion that you have not yet explored through the course.
- ✓ Use the analysis guide to help you develop your analysis of artist research further.
- ✓ Create a definitions list of words to help describe artwork.
- ✓ Research current exhibitions and plan a trip.
- ✓ Create an Fashion themed Instagram account/blog and upload your work to gain feedback and critique.
- ✓ Contact designers that you have researched to gain valuable insight into their work.





## In 'BTEC Hospitality & Catering' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Check you have completed all of your notes.
- ✓ Plan menus for different themes.
- ✓ Research different chef's cooks and see how they present dishes. What styles do they use? What ingredients do they use? How ethical are their food sources etc?
- ✓ Ensure all websites and articles have been recorded as a bibliography at the back of your work. Some useful ones include:
  - [www.bha.org.uk](http://www.bha.org.uk) British Hospitality Association
  - [www.caterer.com](http://www.caterer.com) Caterer.com – catering jobs
  - [www.catersource.com](http://www.catersource.com) cater source – Education, products and news for caterers
  - [www.people1st.co.uk](http://www.people1st.co.uk) People 1<sup>st</sup> – Sector Skills Council for Hospitality, Leisure, Travel and Tourism
- ✓ Create a definitions list of words to help describe food and the meal experience
- ✓ Work through your personalised learning checklist, check all of your notes are complete.
- ✓ Ensure you have written a response to all feedback sheets given
- ✓ Research what new restaurants/hospitality establishments/Food events are on currently and plan a trip to visit.
- ✓ Create an Food themed Instagram account and upload your work to gain feedback and critique.
- ✓ Create a Food themed Pinterest account to record your findings
- ✓ Contact Chefs/Cooks that you have researched to gain valuable insight into their work



In 'BTEC Health and Social Care' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Revision – Transform the notes you are given in lessons into manageable chunks, ensure you are consolidating the knowledge in order to develop a cohesive understanding of the topics. Cross reference your notes with the PLC's
- ✓ Past Paper Practice – familiarise yourself with the format of questioning, work through the past paper exam revision pack. Extra practice is an invaluable way of refining exam technique and consolidating knowledge
- ✓ Spellings and meanings – Ensure you are highlighting key words, command words and technical language for the subject in your notes. If you are unsure of the meaning, find this out to ensure you are using key vocabulary in the appropriate context.
- ✓ Current Affairs - Watching the news and documentaries about Health & Social Care is invaluable. Citing current affairs which are relevant to the topics covered will demonstrate your knowledge in greater depth talking / debating with peers and parents about what is covered in lessons is also invaluable. This course is very heavily weighted on scenario based testing.
- ✓ Revisit Lesson PowerPoints - Go back over the lesson PowerPoints on Show My Homework to ensure you have understood all elements. If not arrange to meet Mrs Ryles-Dean to re-visit



## In 'BTEC ICT' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Go onto Know it all Ninja and read through the notes, complete the quizzes – remember you need 80% for a pass.
- ✓ Access and complete past exam questions from:
- ✓ Read all sections from all the textbooks you have been recommended – make sure you have made notes on both textbooks for every topic you have studied
- ✓ Complete essay plans for all past questions given – hand them in to your teacher
- ✓ Complete revision notes – these will be condensed versions of your main notes and may include cue cards, key term and definitions lists – use your knowledge organiser to help support you with this.
- ✓ Use your knowledge organiser to test yourself on what you know.
- ✓ Go onto <https://www.w3schools.com/> and work through the SQL tutorial
- ✓ Go onto <https://www.w3schools.com/> and work through the CSS and HTML tutorials
- ✓ Go onto <https://support.office.com/en-us/article/access-video-training-a5ffb1ef-4cc4-4d79-a862-e2dda6ef38e6> and work through the Database sections to make yourself more familiar with Microsoft Access.





In 'Biology' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Check you have completed all of the example questions and your notes.
- ✓ Access and complete past exam questions (from either the **homework booklets, exam board website or packs shared through SMHW from teachers**).
- ✓ Review any corrections to past paper questions/ tests that you have done / had marked / have been through in class and analyse:
  - ✓ which areas of the topic you need to practise further
  - ✓ Ensure your answers include biology-specific vocabulary (a big issue in this subject!)
  - ✓ why the marks are what they are for the points made in the mark scheme
  - ✓ how you were supposed to know from the question what you should do
  - ✓ which details you are missing from your answers
  - ✓ which “daft errors” you need to avoid in future.
- ✓ Complete revision notes – these will be condensed versions of your main notes and may include cue cards, key term and definitions lists
- ✓ Re-read notes from Yr 12 and make bullet points for each topic to cover the key concepts.



## In 'Business A' level and BTEC' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Read all sections from all the textbooks and course companion and power points (available on LHS business website) that you have been recommended – make sure you have made notes for every topic you have studied to date
- ✓ Complete past exam questions that your teachers recommend (to ensure correct exam board and level)
- ✓ Complete revision notes – these will be condensed versions of your main notes and may include cue cards, mind maps, key term and definitions lists
- ✓ Work through your personalised learning checklist, check all of your notes are complete
- ✓ Re read notes from Yr 12 and make bullet points for each topic to cover the key concepts
- ✓ If available use your knowledge organiser to test yourself on what you know
- ✓ Watch relevant videos via the LHS business website to recap your knowledge, also available on YouTube 'Taking the Biz' is good. After you have watched them add key ideas to you existing notes and then re watch to see what you have remembered
- ✓ Tackle all the Yr 12 worksheets to recap knowledge and understanding
- ✓ Improve quantitative skills by completing the quantitative skills worksheets available on LHS Business website

Website <http://jhayes28.wixsite.com/lhsbusecon>



In 'Chemistry' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Check you have completed all of the example questions and your notes.
- ✓ Read about the topics you have been studying in your textbook
- ✓ Access and complete past exam questions (from the exam board website or packs shared through SMHW from teachers).
- ✓ Review any corrections to past paper questions that you have done / had marked / have been through in class and analyse:
  - ✓ which areas of the topic you need to practise further,
  - ✓ why the marks are for the points made in the mark scheme,
  - ✓ how you were supposed to know from the question what you should do,
  - ✓ which details you are missing from your answers,
  - ✓ which "daft errors" you need to avoid in future.
- ✓ Complete revision notes – these will be condensed versions of your main notes and may include cue cards, key term and definitions lists (you may wish to use the summary notes from the "chemrevise" website as a starting point).#
- ✓ If you have invested in a workbook, complete questions on topics you have been studying
- ✓ Re read notes from Yr 12 and make bullet points for each topic to cover the key concepts.



## In 'Economics' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Check you have completed all of your notes & / or cue cards
- ✓ Access and complete MCQ exam questions (from the exam board website or Maths and Physics tutor, or legacy papers in S106). Write written explanations for MCQ questions.
- ✓ Read all sections from the power points available on the website or that have been sent via SMHW. Make sure you have added notes to your cue cards
- ✓ Add in relevant diagrams to notes & cue cards
- ✓ Practise drawing the diagrams
- ✓ Complete essay plans for past questions (use web site for questions or legacy question in S106)
- ✓ Complete revision notes – these will be condensed versions of your main notes and may include cue cards, mind maps, key term and definitions lists
- ✓ Work through your personalised learning checklist, check all of your notes are complete
- ✓ Re read notes from Yr 12 and make bullet points for each topic to cover the key concepts
- ✓ If you have a knowledge organiser, test yourself on what you know
- ✓ Complete worksheets that you have been given
- ✓ Watch EconDalPlus YouTube videos to recap your knowledge, after you have watched them write down the key ideas and then re watch to see what you have remembered



In 'English Language' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Download the specification and make sure you are fully aware of the contents;
- ✓ Access and complete past exam questions then compare to the mark schemes on the AQA website (<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/as-and-a-level/english-language-7701-7702>);
- ✓ Read the Examiners' Reports – available on the AQA website;
- ✓ Make sure that your folder(s) are organised and that you have included cross-referencing for any information/research that is relevant to more than one aspect of the course;
- ✓ Transform information provided to you on Knowledge Organisers eg create cue cards/mind maps/etc. This can also be done for each topic;
- ✓ Listen to, make notes on, Word of Mouth episodes on the Radio 4 website;
- ✓ Complete on-line research of theorists/concepts to support your notes;
- ✓ Analyse child speech through on-line clips and apply theories;
- ✓ Use reference books in the library or available to borrow from staff.





## In 'English Literature' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework:

- ✓ Reread your set texts, then select important scenes and chapters for further reading and scrutiny.
- ✓ Learn quotations for each set text.
- ✓ Check that you have made detailed scene, chapter or poetry notes for every text.
- ✓ Ensure that you have detailed mind maps for each character or speaker in each text.
- ✓ Check that you have made notes on the themes and ideas in every text.
- ✓ Ensure that you have researched the context for each of your set texts (not only the social/ historical/ political/ cultural context of each text, but also the literary context e.g. *how does 'The Great Gatsby' relate to the modernist period of literature?*)
- ✓ Extend your wider reading by reading other texts by the writer (*particularly recommended for poetry*) or other texts of the period (*particularly recommended for 'World War 1 and its aftermath'*).
- ✓ Locate and read articles on set texts, writers and movements from 'The English Review' magazine in the library.
- ✓ Make further notes from 'York Notes Advanced', 'SparkNotes' and other revision guides; research critics' views on set texts.
- ✓ Access and complete past exam papers (from the AQA website or a list from your teacher): make detailed essay plans and then make plans in timed conditions; write introductions to essays; write individual paragraphs; write whole essays and then write the same essay in timed conditions.
- ✓ Reread model answers from FAR marking and use them to write full answers of your own.
- ✓ Read all sections from the Oxford and Cambridge textbooks that accompany English Literature Specification A.
- ✓ Watch relevant YouTube videos to recap your knowledge; after you have watched them write down the key ideas and then watch again to see what you have remembered (e.g. *John Green's 'Crash Course in English Literature'*).
- ✓ Learn key terminology and use it in your essays.



## In 'French, German and Spanish' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Check you have completed all of your notes
- ✓ Redraft any work which has been marked – there should be nothing in your file which hasn't been corrected. Using a different coloured pen will help you to monitor what you have done / not done
- ✓ Make your own vocabulary lists making sure that you record the gender of nouns and how they form their plural. You should use reading texts that you have studied in class or look through homework sheets.
- ✓ Create your own irregular verb list and spend 15 minutes every day learning from this. You will be amazed how much you can learn in 15 minutes per day over 2 years!
- ✓ Make lists for each topic of 5 key facts related to the country of the language you are learning – this will help prepare you for the speaking exam
- ✓ Complete revision notes – these will be condensed versions of your main notes and may include cue cards, key term and definitions lists
- ✓ Use your independent learning activities grid – aim to complete one of each task per half term
- ✓ Work through your personalised learning checklist and highlight any areas which are incomplete – ask the others in your groups for their notes and if you still have something missing, check with your tutor.
- ✓ Visit the recommended websites to practise and improve your listening skills in the target language – aim to listen to the news in the country of your chosen language at least twice a week as this will help with cultural knowledge as well as understanding



In 'Geography' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Catch up on missed work
- ✓ Check you have completed all of your notes to a good standard
- ✓ Practice essay plans, and write them. Hand into teacher for marking
- ✓ Complete revision notes – these will be condensed versions of your main notes and may include cue cards, key term and definitions lists
- ✓ Work through the revision guide for theory
- ✓ Watch relevant YouTube videos to recap your knowledge, after you have watched them write down the key ideas and then re watch to see what you have remembered
- ✓ Re-draft previous marked essay questions using the FAR feedback you were given. Then, have a go at marking your work using the mark scheme.
- ✓ Use the suggested reading list for the theme and complete any relevant reading (and make notes!) on topics that are on the PLCs/topic checklists.
- ✓ Follow News websites to keep up today with contextual examples that can be linked to your studies



In 'History' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Check you have completed all of your notes
- ✓ Look in the A Level History sections of the library and complete extra reading on the topics you are studying at the moment or feel weakest on.
- ✓ Complete essay plans for all past questions given – hand them in to your teacher
- ✓ Complete revision notes – these will be condensed versions of your main notes and may include cue cards, key term and definitions lists
- ✓ Work through your personalised learning checklist, check all of your notes are complete
- ✓ Watch relevant YouTube videos to recap your knowledge, after you have watched them write down the key ideas and then re watch to see what you have remembered
- ✓ Re-draft previous marked essay questions using the FAR feedback you were given. Then, have a go at marking your work using the mark scheme.
- ✓ Use the suggested reading list for the theme and complete any relevant reading (and make notes!) on topics that are on the PLCs/topic checklists.



In 'Maths/Further Maths' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Check you have a complete set of notes
- ✓ Access and complete past exam questions from the past paper booklets or the exam board website.
- ✓ Read relevant sections from the textbook, and learn the 'Key Points' at the end of each chapter.
- ✓ Use MyMaths (Lymm, Ruler) to watch appropriate lessons and try the questions.
- ✓ Make sure your Y12 notes are complete. Maths builds on what is learnt before so a full knowledge of earlier work is essential.
- ✓ Make sure you know fully and fluently any formulas (eg Trig, Integration, Statistics) that you may need in the exam.
- ✓ Watch relevant YouTube videos to recap your knowledge, after you have watched them find similar questions in your textbooks or past paper booklets to test what you have learnt.





In 'Media Studies' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework:

- ✓ Check you have completed all of your notes. When you have made notes on a key sequence in class, re-write them in clear sections (e.g. setting, characters, plot, theory etc)
- ✓ Access and complete sample exam questions – available on the Eduqas site (<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/media-studies/as-a-level/eduqas-a-level-media-studies-sams-from-2017-eng.pdf>)
- ✓ Watch/listen to the videos available: there are the ones that Mrs Brennan has made, and the “media literacy” ones that have been shared with you via SMHW.
- ✓ Complete essay plans for all past questions given – hand them in
- ✓ Complete revision notes – these will be condensed versions of your main notes and may include cue cards, key term and definitions lists
- ✓ Use the knowledge organiser booklets for ALL Component 1 texts. Try the revision strategies we suggest on the school website: (<http://www.lymmhigh.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Knowledge-Organisers.pdf>)
- ✓ Last, but definitely not least, **is your coursework done?**! The deadline is the end of December: that is when they are being moderated and saved in the online folder for the exam board.



In 'PE' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Check you have completed all of your notes, those made in lesson are often brief
- ✓ Make cue cards for each topic (put questions on one side so you can quiz yourself or someone else can)
- ✓ Revise your knowledge organiser and then test yourself to repeat small sections.
- ✓ Complete your glossary – this should always be complete for 1 topic ahead (pre-reading!)
- ✓ Use short answer question booklet (Y13 you can also go back to last years)
- ✓ Repeat previous end of topic tests (time yourself to complete each section e.g. short answer questions you are aiming to complete in 10-12mins)
- ✓ AO tables for essays – you can plan these for each topic and use them to revise – ensure you have specific AO2 examples and have shown links in AO3 points in your plan.
- ✓ Essay practice – Use previous essay questions and practice writing these. Practicing these TIMED is essential



In 'Physics' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Access and complete **past exam questions** (from the exam board website or packs shared through SMHW from teachers).
- ✓ Review any corrections to **past paper questions** that you have done / had marked / have been through in class and analyse:
  - ✓ which areas of the topic you need to practise further,
  - ✓ what the marks are for in the mark scheme,
  - ✓ how you were supposed to know from the question what you should do,
  - ✓ which details you are missing from your answers,
  - ✓ which “daft errors” you need to avoid in future.
- ✓ Access **Isaac Physics** and complete questions on your topics of weakness
- ✓ Read through the examiners reports on previous papers and make sure you know how to avoid common pitfalls



In 'Psychology and Sociology' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Check you have completed all of your notes
- ✓ Access and complete past exam questions (from the exam board website or a list from your teachers)
- ✓ Read all sections from all the textbooks you have been recommended – make sure you have made notes on both textbooks for every topic you have studied
- ✓ Complete essay plans for all past questions given – hand them in to your teacher
- ✓ Complete revision notes – these will be condensed versions of your main notes and may include cue cards, key term and definitions lists
- ✓ Work through your personalised learning checklist, check all of your notes are complete
- ✓ Re read notes from Yr 12 and make bullet points for each topic to cover the key concepts
- ✓ Use your knowledge organiser to test yourself on what you know
- ✓ Watch relevant YouTube videos to recap your knowledge, after you have watched them write down the key ideas and then re watch to see what you have remembered



## In 'Photography' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Check your annotation makes sense and is written in an academic style (AO3)
- ✓ Plan a further photo-shoot that is inspired by your current theme. (AO2)
- ✓ Use your compositional elements help sheet to revise and test yourself on how different photographers work (AO1/AO3)
- ✓ Use your Camera Settings help sheet to revise and test yourself on how different photographers work (AO1/AO3)
- ✓ Ensure all websites and articles have been recorded as a bibliography at the back of your portfolio.
- ✓ Create a definitions list of words to help describe artwork.
- ✓ Work through your personalised learning checklist, check all of your notes are complete.
- ✓ Ensure you have written a response to all FAR marking and all actions have been completed.
- ✓ Research what exhibitions are on currently and plan a trip. (AO1 – Primary Research)
- ✓ Create a Photography themed Instagram account and upload your work to gain feedback and critique. (AO3)
- ✓ Contact photographers that you have researched to gain valuable insight into their work (AO1 - Primary Research)





## In 'Product Design' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Ensure your NEA work is up to date. If it is up to date, look at what pages need completing next and make a start. Use the example folders on the W-Drive to help you understand what you need to do.
- ✓ Study the PG Online PowerPoints and attempt the worksheets and homework sheet's on the student share drive (W-Drive).
- ✓ Create summary sheets for each PG Online Unit you have studied.
- ✓ Access and complete sample exam papers from the W-Drive and AQA website.
- ✓ Answer questions from the end of each chapter in recommended textbook (AQA A Level Design and Technology Product Design, Hodder education, Ian Granger et al.)
- ✓ Make your own revision flash cards focusing on manufacturing processes, E.G Injection Moulding, Die Casting, Etc.
- ✓ Re read notes/worksheets from Yr 12 and make bullet points for each topic to cover the key concepts
- ✓ Watch 'How Its Made' YouTube videos of manufacturing processes to recap your knowledge, after you have watched them write down the materials, processes and quality control used. Also note health and safety precautions. Then re-watch the video and check what you remembered and what you missed.



In 'RPE' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Check you have completed all of your notes using the PLC in the front of your booklet
- ✓ Make sure you have completed the summary questions for all topics covered
- ✓ Listen to other relevant or interesting podcasts on Panpsycast
- ✓ Complete reading for Philosophy Book Club
- ✓ Access and complete past exam questions [www.edexcel.com](http://www.edexcel.com)
- ✓ Create flash cards for the topics completed so far
- ✓ Create key word banks / philosopher descriptions for revision
- ✓ Use knowledge organisers to test yourself on what you know.
- ✓ Watch relevant YouTube/TED videos to recap your knowledge



## In 'Theatre Studies' you should do the following activities when you have finished your homework -

- ✓ Create a power point for the following practitioner which outlines their key ideas and techniques: Punchdrunk, Kneehigh, Complicite.
- ✓ Ensure you completed all your notes which records the practical process which will help you when you are writing up our notes.
- ✓ Regularly visit the website of the National theatres and read reviews of the plays which are currently on: National Theatre, New Vic Theatre in London, Lowry, Royal Exchange Theatre, RSC in Stratford.
- ✓ Create a definitions list of words to help describe the technical elements used within a production which will help you to describe lighting and sound:  
<http://www.theatrecrafts.com/pages/>
- ✓ Work through your personalised learning checklist, check all of your notes are complete.
- ✓ Keep a blog which records your response to live theatre you have seen – including trailers and clips you have watched.
- ✓ Read work by the list of recommended playwrights on the edexcel website – keep a reading log and aim to read work in a range of styles: Pinter, Ionesco, Brecht, Ravenhill, Cartwright, Shakespeare, Chekov, Ibsen, McDonough, Churchill, Kane, Stenham.
- ✓ Read the current articles on <https://www.thestage.co.uk/>
- ✓ Re-draft previous marked essay questions using the FAR feedback you were given. Then, have a go at marking your the mark scheme.