



Queen Mary's Grammar School
Headmaster: T J Swain, M A

November 16th 2017

Dear Parents,

Updated Information – Homework and Extension Activities

I write to you with further information regarding the setting and completion of homework at the School, following my update in the September Head of School message. This is reprinted below:


*We have also made changes to our policy on **Homework**. In key stages 3 and 4, the students should still receive one hour per subject per fortnight, but we have taken away the timetable (stating which days each subject can be set on). Subjects may set more than one piece in the fortnight (up to the limit of one hour), but still have to stick to the rule of two days to complete the work. We are currently collating a database of extension tasks and independent learning activities per subject. These activities can supplement homework which is set (if one hour per fortnight is not possible) and provide a range of opportunities for students to work beyond the curriculum. At this time of year, we are working with the upper sixth to complete their UCAS applications and the importance of wider, independent reading and research here cannot be overstated.*

I am happy to say that the Key Stage 3 version of the Wider Reading List & Homework Extension Activities publication is ready to print in hard copy and will be distributed to all pupils in the Lower Years as soon as possible. It will also be available in digital form via the school website (under the curriculum tab).

As is highlighted in the preface to the resource, it is important to note that all the extension activities and books on the whole-school wider reading list should be treated as suggestions for enrichment, challenge and *enjoyment*. It is not intended that pupils should be working through them systematically until completion; nor do we intend parents to rush out to buy every book on the list; nor is it intended that teachers will be collecting in extra work for marking. We hope that pupils will find inspiration in the reading lists and fulfilment in the activities, the intention of which is to engage learners and enthuse a love of learning.

Yours sincerely

Richard Langton
Head of School

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