

# Independent study in Geography

Independent study is a vital part of learning the skills of Geography and developing them beyond the classroom. The 'Learning to Fly' document gives guidance on the kinds of habits and practices we ask you to develop in Geography and we consider these to be the most important element of your routine of independent learning. Your teachers will also give you regular pieces of directed homework to develop your skills and understanding.

**At Key Stage 3** we expect you to spend 20 minutes a week reviewing your learning and developing your Geographical skills independently. We will also set a **30 minute** homework task every **week** with a week to complete

**At Key Stage 4** we expect you to spend 30 minutes a week reviewing your learning and developing your Geographical skills independently. We will also set a **40 minute** homework task every **week** with a week to complete.

**In Year 12** we expect you to spend **two hours** a week independently reviewing your learning and developing your understanding of the subject through wider critical reading and **two hours** a week completing directed tasks within 5 to 7 days

**In Year 13** we expect you to spend **four hours** a week independently reviewing your learning and developing your understanding of the subject through wider critical reading and **two hours** a week completing directed tasks within 5 to 7 days.

- We will always give you homework which is **purposeful** and which will have an impact on your learning and skills development.
- We will give you clear guidance about **how** to complete the homework when it is set through written instructions in either passports, topic handbooks or material on Moodle.
- We will acknowledge the work you put in and do all we can to give you useful written or verbal feedback in good time.
- We will use a range of techniques including self, peer and teacher assessment to track your progress.

In return, we expect you to:

- Complete homework on time
- Spend the whole of the prescribed time focusing on the task paying particular attention to the method of assessment required.
- Ask your teacher for help in advance of the due date if you are unsure how to complete the task or if you want advice and guidance.
- Challenge yourself to be the best you can be, using a range of key geographical terms.
- Think critically about sources of research, being aware of bias and reliability.
- Always spend a few minutes planning and checking your work.
- Don't worry about making mistakes - they are the best way to learn.
- Be proud of your work and prepared to share it with your teachers and other students.
- Read and act on the feedback you are given.