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Dear Parent/Carer,

Sixth Form Independent Study Guide

As you will no doubt remember from our Standards Evenings for Years 12 and 13 earlier in the year, at The Bishop's Stortford High School we believe that a crucial part of Sixth Form success is significant levels of independent study outside of lessons. National educational research has demonstrated that the very top achieving Sixth Form students are completing, on average, around 15 hours of work outside of their classwork and set homework tasks every single week by the time they are in Year 13. Such high levels of intrinsic motivation and self-discipline as this are not only crucial to achieve top grades, but also in the future to excel at undergraduate study and in the workplace. Accordingly, as part of our mantle as an outstanding provider of Sixth Form education, we set out to support our students as far as we can in developing the tools they will need to realistically achieve these proactive, independent work habits.

To facilitate this, the Sixth Form Management Team have worked together with Subject Leaders to produce a comprehensive '*Independent Study Guide*'. Full of subject-specific guidance for the kinds of work they should be completing in their study periods and beyond, the idea is to model what is expected and give students a 'bank' of adaptable, generalised tasks to draw from as they progress towards their final examinations.

A copy of this guide can be found on the school website at [Sixth Form Independent Study Guide.pdf](#). Printed versions will additionally be available in the Library and Sixth Form Centre. The idea is that no student should ever be at a loss for how to productively spend a study period or to complete work in their own time. We suggest that students print off the relevant pages from the guide for their subjects and keep them in their folder at all times, for ease of referral.

Whilst it is of course important for students to work increasingly on their own initiative in sixth form, we wanted to share the guide with parents too, so as to provide guidance for the kinds of work your son/daughter should be doing at home. If you have any further questions or would like to know more about our academic expectations for students, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support of TBSHS.

Yours sincerely,

Miss E Quinlan
Deputy Head of Sixth Form (Academic)



TBSHS: A truly all-round education

