Home Learning

Teignmouth Community School

Key Stage 3

Year 8

Home Learning at TCS

At TCS Home Learning is an integral part of our curriculum as it reinforces classroom learning so that students **develop and grow** into independent, problem solving individuals. We strongly encourage all students to **join in** and complete all home learning tasks to the best of their ability. We use home learning to develop students' core knowledge and vocabulary through systematic retrieval practice that aligns to our taught curriculum.

Retrieval practice is the strategy of recalling facts, concepts or events from memory to enhance learning. The act of retrieving something from your memory helps to strengthen the connections and embed knowledge in the long term memory.

We use online platforms to offer immediate feedback. Students don't have to wait for teachers to mark their work, they can see immediately how they have performed and identify areas to focus on. We can also personalise the provision so that it targets any particular learning gaps and informs our future teaching.

What does the research say?

Evidence shows that retrieval practice is especially effective at increasing longer-term retention and generally outperforms more common strategies such as repeated studying or even more elaborate ones like concept mapping (McDermott, 2021; Karpicke & Blunt, 2011; Roediger & Karpicke, 2006).

Research in classrooms demonstrates that retrieval practice is an extremely robust strategy across age groups and subject domains (McDermott, 2021).

Retrieval practice also aids in higher-order thinking; it's not just for memorization. Students who use retrieval practice perform better on complex tasks and show improved metacognition (Pooja & Bain, 2019).

For Key Stage 3:

When setting home learning all of our teachers use the following guiding principles:

- Home learning will be set centrally across the faculty to ensure student equity of experience
- Home learning will be set using an online platform which provides immediate feedback
- Home learning will focus on developing students' core knowledge and key vocabulary

How will Home Learning be set?

All Home Learning will be set on Class Charts to ensure that there is one place students need to look. Students/Parents should log on to Class Charts using the log on and password that has been emailed home. Class Charts will outline the learning students need to complete and a link to the online platform which they should use.

Student login details:
1. Go to www.classcharts.com/student/login OR download the Class Charts Students App from the Apple App Store or Google Play.
2. Enter your student access code
3. Click Log-in!

- All home learning will be set on a Monday
- Core Subjects set home learning tasks weekly (English, Maths, Science)
- Non Core Subjects set home learning tasks fortnightly

Week A		Week B	
Day	**Subject**	**Day**	**Subject**
Monday	English	Monday	Maths
Tuesday	History	Tuesday	Geography
Wednesday	Maths	Wednesday	Science
Thursday	PE	Thursday	MFL
Friday	Science	Friday	English

Students MAY choose to follow the suggested home learning timetable to help organise their week and plan ahead if this is helpful.

Which subjects will set Home Learning?

We will introduce our new system of Home Learning using a phased approach so that students can become familiar with using the online platforms and confident that they understand our expectations and know how to succeed.

The grid below shows when subjects will be introduced to the Home Learning schedule throughout the year. We will review the implementation of this approach each half term and confirm whether those subjects highlighted in yellow be added to the list.

Year Group	Aut 2	Spr 1	Spr 2	Sum 1	Sum 2
Year 8	English Maths Languages PE	English Maths Science History Geography PE Languages	English Maths Science History Geography PE Languages	English Maths Science History Geography PE Languages	English Maths Science History Geography PE Languages

We do not set home learning in Religious Studies, PSHE, IT, Art and Technology. However there may be key times in the year when students are asked to prepare/rehearse for a particular lesson in Performing Arts.

Which online platforms will we use?

At TCS we use the following online platforms to support out home learning curriculum.

Subject	Platform
English	Sparx Reader
Maths	Sparx Maths
Science	Sparx Science/Carousel
History	Carousel
Geography	Carousel
MFL	Language Gym
PE	Microsoft Team (Migrate from Google)

Autumn 2

Subject	English
Online Platform:	Sparx Reader
Why do we use this Online Platform?	Sparx Reader sets students reading comprehension tasks that are adapted to their reading ability, providing real-time insights and improving overall literacy.
How do I log on to complete my home learning?	www.sparxreader.com Username: firstnamesurname Password: set themselves (will be the as Sparx Maths)
How long should my home learning take?	As long as it takes to reach 200 Sparx Reader Points (SRP)- approx. 20 minutes.
What should I do if I am stuck?	Use the prompts that Sparx Reader provides Ask someone to read the text with you to help with comprehension questions.

Subject	Maths
Online Platform:	SPARX
Why do we use this Online Platform?	SPARX homework links directly from SPARX Classroom. Once a lesson is complete it automatically is set as a part of next weeks homework. SPARX automatically marks the work and provides videos to watch. There is also an area for independent learning.
How do I log on to complete my home learning?	https://sparxmaths.com/ Username: firstnamesurname Password: set themselves
How long should my home learning take?	30 minutes to 1 hour
What should I do if I am stuck?	• Watch the video attached to each question • Ask a friend for help • Arrange to sit down with your teacher during a break or afterschool • Screenshot a question and e-mail to your teacher.

Autumn 2

Subject	Languages (French or Spanish)
Online Platform:	Language Gym
Why do we use this Online Platform?	This platform directly links to the Conti EPI methodology we use to teach Spanish and French
How do I log on to complete my home learning?	**You can sign in from your school account (through Google) or another email. Please keep the password safe!** Make sure Language Gym is set to the UK server and not Singapore. **How to join classroom** 1. Go to: **https://uk.language-gym.com** 2. Click Login 3. Sign up as New Student
How long should my home learning take?	15-20 mins (if it takes less time, repeat the task until you feel confident you know the language presented).
What should I do if I am stuck?	Make sure Language Gym is set to the UK server and not Singapore before you even attempt to sign in.

Subject	PE
Online Platform:	Class Charts
Why do we use this Online Platform?	This platform is easy for students to access so they can continue to develop their knowledge of PE.
How do I log on to complete my home learning?	You can sign into class charts using you log in details that were emailed home to you.
How long should my home learning take?	5-10 Minuets
What should I do if I am stuck?	• Ask a friend for help • Ask your teacher for help by emailing them to ask for guidance on a question or arrange to see them at break or afterschool for help. • Search on the internet