Policy for Home Learning

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A. What is the Value of Home Learning?

Research shows that structured home learning can significantly enhance a child's educational progress. At Isha Academy, home learning supports the personalised tuition experience by reinforcing key concepts and building independent study habits. It also fosters a positive learning partnership between parents, students, and educators.

B. Aims of Home Learning Policy

The aims of home learning at Isha Academy are:

- To strengthen the partnership between parents, students, and educators.
- To reinforce and extend skills and understanding, particularly in core subjects.
- To value all aspects of home-based learning experiences.
- To encourage students to develop confidence and self-discipline in independent study.
- To prepare students for transitions between Key Stages and higher education.

C. How Can Parents Help Children at Home?

Parents play a crucial role in supporting their child’s home learning by:

- Setting aside dedicated study time in a quiet environment.
- Encouraging discussions, research, and practice of key concepts.
- Praising efforts and achievements to build motivation.
- Ensuring their child completes assigned tasks on time.

Isha Academy values parental involvement, and our tutors provide regular feedback on home learning progress.

D. What is the Homework Policy at Isha Academy?

Home learning tasks are tailored to each student’s academic needs. The structure of homework varies based on the student’s age and subject requirements.

Early Years (EYFS)

- Parents receive verbal updates on their child's progress.
- Home activities include interactive learning tasks and phonics practice.
- Children bring home wordless books to encourage storytelling and discussion.
- Suggested study time: 10-15 minutes per evening.

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

- Students take home reading books from Monday to Thursday.
- Weekly spelling lists are provided, with assessments in the following week.
- Homework may include phonics, numeracy, and literacy-based tasks.
- Online learning platforms such as Bug Club, Education City, and My Maths may be used.
- Suggested study time: 10-15 minutes per evening.

Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6)

- Students change reading books weekly and are encouraged to read daily.
- Weekly literacy and numeracy homework is assigned every Friday, due by Monday.
- Spelling tests take place weekly.
- Online learning resources may supplement homework tasks.
- Students are encouraged to practise multiplication tables at home.
- Suggested study time: 20 minutes per evening.

Key Stage 3 & GCSE Preparation

- Subject-specific homework is assigned based on individual learning plans.
- Students are expected to engage in extended reading and research.
- Online platforms such as GCSE Pod and My Maths may be utilised.
- Weekly assessments help track progress.
- Suggested study time: 30-45 minutes per evening.

Support for Students

Students struggling with home learning can attend support sessions at Isha Academy, where tutors provide guidance and assistance.

E. Workshops and Communication with Parents

Isha Academy holds termly workshops for parents and students to enhance learning at home. These workshops cover:

- Phonics and reading strategies.
- Effective numeracy skills.
- Exam preparation techniques.
- Online learning tools and resources.

Details of workshops are shared via email, flyers, and on the academy's website.

F. Holiday Projects

To encourage continuous learning, holiday projects are set for all students. These projects relate to curriculum themes and enhance independent research skills. Parents receive project details in the final week of term, and they are also available on the academy's website.

G. Responsibility of the Management Team

The management team at Isha Academy is responsible for:

- Reviewing the home learning policy annually.
- Supporting parental engagement in home learning projects.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of homework assignments.

Safe Use of the Internet

If students use the internet for home learning, parents should ensure they do so safely. For guidance on internet safety, parents can speak to their child's tutor.

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