



# The Friary School

*High achievement through challenge and support for every learner*

Eastern Avenue, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS13 7EW

Tel: 01543 267 400 Fax: 01543 267 499 Absence Line: 01543 267 467



Headteacher

M J Allman

Website: [www.friaryschool.com](http://www.friaryschool.com)

E-mail: [office@friaryschool.com](mailto:office@friaryschool.com)

September 2018

Dear Parent

I hope that your child is settling in well and enjoying their learning experience at The Friary School. I am writing to inform you about the arrangements for the setting of home learning in years 7, 8 and 9.

During the first three weeks of term Year 7 students will receive some initial home learning tasks to complete in most subjects. On 24<sup>th</sup> September, they will be set their first Home Learning Assignments (HLAs). These are more substantial tasks with a longer completion time set by every department in the school except for Modern Foreign Languages and maths. These two subjects set smaller, weekly home learning tasks during the course of the year due to the nature of their curriculum content.

HLAs are set on a fortnightly rota and there are two pieces of homework set by different subject areas. So, for example, on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September students will be set an English and science HLA. This will be due in on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October when the students will be set geography and art HLAs, and so the cycle continues. The number of HLAs per academic year is based on each subject's curriculum allocation so there are a larger number of HLAs for English and science than there are for music and art.

We have adopted this approach and found it to be successful for a number of reasons:

- It allows students to develop their independent study skills and deepen their knowledge of the content which they are studying in lessons. This will help them to become more effective learners in preparation for years 10 and 11.
- It allows students and parents to plan when home learning will be completed and ensures plenty of time to seek advice from teaching staff where necessary.
- It provides parents with a useful overview of what homework is due to be completed and when it should be completed by.
- It also ensures that home learning is spread evenly throughout the academic year.

Students are expected to download their HLAs on the Monday that they are issued from [www.showmyhomework.co.uk](http://www.showmyhomework.co.uk). The HLA timetable can be accessed via the homepage at [www.friaryschool.com](http://www.friaryschool.com). Show my homework is an online programme that we use to set all home learning. Students and parents can clearly see the tasks that have been set and receive reminders and updates; there is also an app which can be downloaded to further personalise the experience. To set up your child's home learning account, please visit show my homework and follow the instructions on the attached sheet.

If your child doesn't have access to a computer or a printer, a number of paper copies will be available from reprographics so that all students can access the assignments. If internet and/or computer access is required for completion of the assignment, the school library is available after school every day until 4.30pm for students to complete their work. Each HLA comes with clear instructions for completion and an outline of the amount of time that should be spent on it.

You will notice that there are points on the HLA calendar where it says 'platinum assessment preparation' or 'gold assessment preparation'. At these points HLAs are suspended to allow students to prepare for assessments. More information on this can be found in the 'Information regarding assessment at KS3' letter on the school website.

If you do have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Cain

