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Dear Parent/Carer,

At Grace Academy Solihull we know that a student makes the best progress when they continue their learning both in and outside of school, which is why we think homework is a really important part of the work we do. Research by the Education Endowment Fund has found that students completing homework linked to classroom work can add up to five months of extra learning and can boost student grades. Our homework policy sets our clear aim to support students to...

- Revise what they have been taught so that they remember it for the long term, and ensure they make outstanding progress. This is supported by our daily retrieval quizzes and hegarty maths.
- Have the opportunity to further research and explore topics related to the curriculum to develop their cultural capital. This is supported by our remote enrichment opportunities, and additional learning detailed below.

In lessons in school students will be reminded and supported in being able to access all of the resources below.

What homework does my child need to complete?

- **Daily Retrieval Quizzes:** Students are set a retrieval homework every day of the week which will automatically appear on the *Satchel One* app. These quizzes test important knowledge that students have been taught in the past to help them know and remember more. The results from this quiz are then reviewed by teachers who can adapt their lessons to address any areas of weakness and also to build on student strengths. Teachers will supplement these daily quizzes with other extended pieces of work which will also appear on the app over the coming half term.
- **Weekly Hegarty Maths:** Maths teachers also use the Hegarty maths platform which includes adaptive work and explanatory videos to help support students. Maths teachers will explain to students how to access this platform in lessons.

What additional homework could my child complete to help them progress further?

To give students the opportunity to further develop their independent learning skills, and to enable them to take more ownership of their home learning we have developed the two additional resources available to all students...

- **Additional Home Learning:** One key skill students need to develop is the ability to work independently and to develop study and research skills. To give students a structured way of developing these skills we have developed an additional home learning section on the website which includes websites and projects they could consider to further enrich their understanding. While there are other websites you may use, these are websites our teachers have used before to provide an enriching experience.
- **Recorded Lessons:** As you will know during the pandemic teachers at the academy delivered hundreds of hours of content to all students. All students have access to this full bank of resources and could use this material to identify areas of weakness or to explore topics they have studied in past years or will study in future years. You can identify what your child is studying this year at the moment, or in previous years in the Curriculum section of the website.

All of these resources can be found on the academy website under "Curriculum" and then "Homework at GAS".



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What should my child do now?

- Ensure they have the Satchel One app downloaded to their phone or web-enabled device to enable them to easily access their daily quizzes. (See a login guide at the end of this letter)
- Consider which other homework resources they may want to take advantage of to further support their learning.

What if they can't log on, or would like some more support?

In lessons, students have been helped in their computing lesson or will be helped during tutor time to access all of the resources above. If your child experiences any difficulties in logging in then they should discuss it with their computing teacher and tutor. Additionally, we will be running **help clinics** on **Monday 24th January from 14:50 – 15:10 in room 044** where a dedicated member of the ICT support team will be available to support students.

As always thanks for your ongoing help and support, we know our great academic success is only possible because of the hard work of our parents and careers.

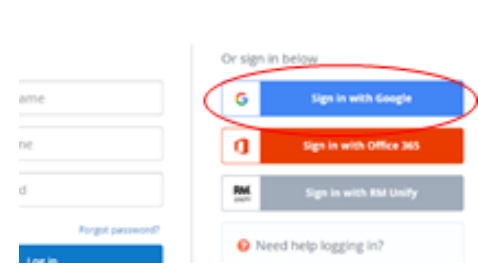
Yours sincerely

Darren Gelder
Principal




Satchel One: How to Guide

How do I log on?

- Go to www.showmyhomework.co.uk and click log in.
- Click “sign in with google”.
- Enter the same username and password as you use to log into school computers. Username should be of the form `ac0100****@graceacademy.org.uk`
- You will see a quiz in your to do list, have a go at it!
- Download the app for easier access



Download the Satchel One app from...



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What if I can't log on?

- Make sure you click “sign in with google”.
- Ask your computing teacher or tutor to double check your AC0100 number and password.
- Attend the drop-in clinic in 044 on Monday 24th January.