

Archer
Academy

Student
Toolkit



archer
ACADEMY



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Daily life at the Archer Academy

Welcome

THE ARCHER'S TOOLKIT


Dear Archer

Congratulations! We are delighted that you will be joining the Archer Academy.

We know that, despite all of the excitement surrounding starting secondary school, you are probably quite anxious about what the reality of being in Year 7 involves. The Archer's Toolkit is designed to help you become an expert on the school, so you feel confident and prepared for the many opportunities and challenges that September will bring.

One of the best ways of preparing for a new adventure – and moving up to the Archer Academy really is a big adventure – is by being informed. So we've packed this toolkit full of information about moving into Year 7, including answers to the questions and worries that some of you have raised.



Whenever you see a picture of a smiley face , it is time to stop and think about all the different information you have read. Each smiley face will give you some things to think about and maybe discuss with your friends or family.

A booklet has also been put together for your parents, so that your whole family is ready for life at the Archer Academy. However, please remember that if there is anything that you still feel unsure about, you can find plenty of information on the main school website and on the student only 'VIP Zone'. You can also email any questions to me at office@thearcheracademy.org.uk.

Enjoy navigating your way through the toolkit and becoming a star Archer student. I am really looking forward to working with you and helping you grow into a happy, confident and successful young adult.

Such exciting times!

Miss Harrison
Headteacher





Moving to year 7

HOW WILL THE ARCHER ACADEMY BE DIFFERENT TO MY PRIMARY SCHOOL?

I expect that you are excited, but also a bit worried, about how different your school days might be from September. Moving up from primary school is a big change, but a good one.

Your primary school teachers have been working with us throughout this term to ensure that your transition to Year 7 is as smooth as possible, but there will be some big differences. Life in Year 7 will feel more grown up and we expect this is something you may well be looking forward to. However, it is perfectly normal to be getting a touch of the 'what if's?'

Starting at the Archer Academy is very much like going on an adventure, and worries are a natural part of every new adventure. Some people handle them better than others, and some people hide them better, but everyone has them - and that's good. Because worries are nature's way of making you prepared.

SO, WHAT ARE THE BIG DIFFERENCES?

In general we will expect you to be more independent, self reliant and organised.

- You might have to travel further and probably make your way to school independently. This might involve going on the bus or train or riding your bicycle.
- You might have to wear a full school uniform for the first time. The uniform list is very specific about shoes, bags, PE kit and even hair styles.
- Instead of one teacher, you will be taught by nine or ten different teachers.
- The school will feel much bigger.
- You will have to travel between classrooms for each lesson and carry all your belongings with you.
- You will be expected to bring a range of equipment with you and be organised about what you need on each day.
- You will need to follow a timetable for each day and each week so that you go to the right lessons at the right time - and hopefully with the right equipment.
- You will need to use MS Teams, our online learning platform and your Archer Academy student handbook to manage your homework, by recording it correctly and making sure that you hand it in on time.
- There will probably be a lot more homework than you are used to. Some homework will be set weekly whereas some might have longer deadlines in the form of essays and projects.
- There will be new lessons such as Design & Technology and Foreign Languages, but also many lessons will feel very different; for example you will study Science in a laboratory.

- Break and lunch time will be organised differently and you will have more independence in terms of getting back to lessons on time and buying your own lunch and snacks.
- You won't have all of your lessons with the same children throughout the day.



Which of these changes are you really looking forward to? Which of these changes worry you a bit? Where might you need some extra help from school or home? Where might you already be very confident and able to support others?

Once you have thought about the questions above, you can start to work your way through the different sections of the toolkit. There is a section related to each of the big changes that you will face on your new adventure at the Archer Academy.



History

HOW DID THE ARCHER ACADEMY COME ABOUT?

You will be completing your secondary school education at a very special place. A group of parents within the community applied to open the Archer Academy for local children. The determination of these parents resulted in the Archer Academy becoming an outstanding secondary school in East Finchley.

The Archer Academy takes its name from the statue by Eric Aumonier which rests above East Finchley station, symbolising our school's roots in the heart of the community. The sculpture was unveiled to the public in July 1940 to represent the history of East Finchley's surroundings - the station is on the edge of the site of the Royal Forest of Enfield, where people used to hunt. The statue is positioned so that you can only see it on entering the station - in other words, on beginning your journey. The angle of the archer's arrow also traces the train line itself as it dives underground for just over 17 miles, all the way to Morden.



What do you think we can learn from this as we begin our journey together from September?

Your teachers are very ambitious for you and are committed to helping you fulfil your potential academically, as well as helping you to grow up into a responsible and well rounded individual, ready to take on the challenges of adult life. We want to ensure that your school years really are the best years.

Your school has three central aims, but what are they all about?

REALISING POTENTIAL

We want every Archer to achieve to the best of their abilities. We will encourage you to pursue academic excellence and will set high expectations for you. Of course, we will support you every step of the way.

INSPIRING CREATIVITY

We want every Archer to be able to think for themselves and challenge the world around them. We want you to be able to work confidently and independently. Thinking skills will form a big part of your curriculum, and we will help you make connections in your learning, be inventive, communicate efficiently and work well with other people.

ENGAGING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

We want every Archer to be fully involved in the life of the school but also the wider community. We encourage our students to become responsible, thoughtful citizens with an understanding of our place in the national and global community.



What do these three aims mean to you? How would you explain them to someone else? What do you think these aims might mean for your time at the Archer Academy?

So, what will it be like to be an Archer student?

The Archer Way has two sections. Following the shared values there are also some hopes for the type of young adults that Archers might grow up into.

THE ARCHER WAY

Our school believes in everyone in our community learning together to build an exciting future.

Because:

- we are all lifelong learners
- we value the importance of a strong community
- we all have unique abilities and talents
- what we can achieve together is far more than we could accomplish alone

An Archer student values:

A ACHIEVEMENT

We will strive to achieve to the best of our abilities and to experience the delight of success.

R RESPECT FOR OTHERS

We will treat everyone with kindness and both listen to and value different opinions, beliefs and cultures.

C CURIOSITY

We will delight in being inquisitive, analytical and having a strong desire to know and learn more.

H HARD WORK

We recognise that personal motivation and determination are an essential part of achieving success.

E ENJOYMENT

We will take every opportunity to experience the fun and excitement of learning.

R RESPONSIBILITY

We pride ourselves on being globally aware and making a positive contribution to the life of the school and wider community.



Our school values have been designed to represent the name of the school. How have we done this? Do you know what this poetry and memory technique is called? What do these values mean to you? How would you explain what being an Archer is all about to someone else?

Through their learning journey, an Archer pupil will grow up to become:

ARTICULATE

Able to express their ideas confidently, fluently and coherently using words, numbers and new technologies.

ANALYTICAL

Able to investigate and apply reason and logic to construct opinions and evidence.

CREATIVE

Able to be original, expressive and imaginative.

COLLABORATIVE

Able to work with all people to achieve shared goals.

REFLECTIVE

Able to be contemplative and thoughtful about their own and others' ideas and performance.

RESILIENT

Able to recover readily from adversity and face challenges robustly.



How do you feel about the aspirations that we have for you as an Archer? How do you see these skills developing? You might feel really confident in some areas already - which ones? Are you worried about any of these skills? Which ones do you think might be hardest to develop?

Remember, you will have lots of help, support and encouragement throughout your Archer journey.



Daily life

HOW WILL MY DAY BE ORGANISED?

School will start at 8.30am. You will need to go straight to your first lesson.

Your form tutor will look after you and give you a copy of your timetable and you will be able to record this in your student handbook. It is also a good idea to put a copy of your timetable up somewhere at home, for example on the fridge in the kitchen, so that your parents can support you in being organised.

The times and structure of your days vary throughout the week. A single lesson is one hour long, a double lesson is two hours long.

Having a look at your timetable a day in advance will help you be organised, as you will need to bring different books and equipment each day.

Get your bag ready the night before.



How do you feel about having a timetable? What obstacles might you face that you need to prepare for? Are there certain lessons or days which you are really looking forward to? What further questions do you need to ask?

**Buy a watch!
You will find it very useful!**

THE SCHOOL DAY

MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY

Session	Time
Lesson 1	8.30 - 9.30am
Lesson 2	9.30 - 10.30am
Break	10.30 - 10.50am
Lesson 3	10.50 - 11.50am
Lesson 4	11.50 - 12.50pm
Lunch	12.50 - 1.30pm
Lesson 5	1.30 - 2.30pm
Lesson 6	2.30 - 3.30pm
Afternoon registration	3.30 - 3.40pm
Optional after school clubs and courses	3.40 - 4.40pm

TUESDAY AND THURSDAY

Session	Time
Lesson 1	8.30 - 9.30am
Lesson 2	9.30 - 10.30am
Break	10.30 - 10.50am
Lesson 3	10.50 - 11.50am
Lesson 4	11.50 - 12.50pm
Lunch	12.50 - 1.30pm
Lesson 5	1.30 - 2.30pm
Break	2.30 - 2.45pm
Tutor time or assembly	2.45 - 3.05pm
Enrichment	3.05 - 4.05pm
Optional after school clubs and courses	4.05 - 5.05pm

FRIDAY

Session	Time
Lesson 1	8.30 - 9.30am
Lesson 2	9.30 - 10.30am
Break	10.30 - 10.50am
Lesson 3	10.50 - 11.50am
Lesson 4	11.50 - 12.50pm
Lunch	12.50 - 1.30pm
Lesson 5	1.30 - 2.30pm
Tutor time	2.30 - 3.00pm
Optional after school clubs and courses	3.00 - 4.00pm



Uniform and equipment

WHAT WILL I WEAR? WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING?

We want every Archer to wear their uniform with pride. The uniform was designed with parents and students to ensure that it is smart, simple, practical and affordable.



UNIFORM LIST

DAILY SCHOOL	SPORTS/DANCE/DRAMA
Logo V Neck Charcoal jumper/cardigan Striped shirt Charcoal grey skirt or trousers Plain, dark outside coat School bag with logo Sensible, black leather look shoes (sports brands, are not appropriate) Dark coloured socks/tights If you wear a hijab it should be plain and either black or grey	Logo polo shirt Logo shorts/skort Logo hooded sweatshirt Logo tracksuit bottoms/logo leggings Plain black football socks Predominantly black/dark trainers Astro trainers or football boots Mouth guard for rugby Logo black tee shirt Plain black leggings Water bottle

APPEARANCE

Archer students should arrive at school smartly dressed and ready to learn. The following are expected at all times:

- Full school uniform
- Long hair to be tied back
- Lanyard with locker key must be worn (provided by school)
- Black leather look shoes/dark coat/school bag/water bottle

- It is a **NO** to the following:
- Hair colours outside of the natural colour spectrum
- Jewellery other than a single stud earring in each ear
- Shavings or markings in hair
- Brightly coloured hair holding devices
- Make up
- Nail varnish

EQUIPMENT

Please bring the following to school every day:

- Student handbook
- A pencil case: with black, blue, purple and red pens, pencil, whiteboard pen, ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener, highlighters, a glue stick, coloured pencils, compass and protractor.
- Scientific calculator model Casio FX-83GT Plus with dual algebraic display
- Folder and a notebook
- Reading book



What do you think about your new school uniform? How do you feel about the expectations surrounding your appearance?



A chance to meet new people

MAKING NEW FRIENDS

By this point in Year 6 you probably know everyone in your school really well. You have made friends with everyone you could possibly be friends with and learnt to live with the rest.

Going up to secondary school means that, for the first time in years, you are starting again in a group of people where you don't know everyone. You've got the chance to make lots of new friends. So does that mean you're going to lose the old ones? Not at all!

You'll never have had the chance to meet so many people of your own age before, so make the most of it. We will support everyone in making new friends through circle time activities and team building games. However, these are some top tips worth trying out to make new friends:

- Get involved in sports teams
- Get involved in arts activities
- Meet up at break time with old friends in different classes and meet their new friends
- Visit the library at break or lunchtime
- Join lunchtime clubs and activities
- Take part in a variety of enrichment activities
- Join the School Council
- Get involved in house activities

Fortunately, not everyone in the world is loud, confident and super sociable. Everyone is different and everyone has got a different idea about what sort of friendships they want. Some people are happy with one best friend, and others want to be in the middle of a big group; some people don't need any close friends at all, but like to be on the edge of several groups.

Making friends is not about having a particular personality; it is about having good friendship skills.

You might find this helpful:

- Smile – it's a scientific fact that when you smile people are inclined to like you!
- Expect everyone to like you – why wouldn't they?



- Talk about yourself confidently, but don't boast or grumble.
- Listen to other people.
- Know the difference between joining in and taking over.
- Enjoy the fact that everyone is different.
- Remember that even though you are doing all the right things, not everyone will want to be friends. Don't take it personally.



Which friendship skills are you confident about using? Is making friends something you are worried about? Or is this an aspect of starting Year 7 that you are really looking forward to?

Ask a question and really listen to the answer

Look people in the eye when you talk to them

Say hi!

Smile!



Getting organised

HOMWORK AND STUDENT PLANNERS

At school we use an online platform called **MS Teams**. You will be given a username and password to login to the platform and view your homework online. This will be explained when you start school. Our Archer students find it very useful. Your parents can also access MS Teams using your login details.

Every Archer student will be given a student handbook which you can use to jot down any notes about your homework.

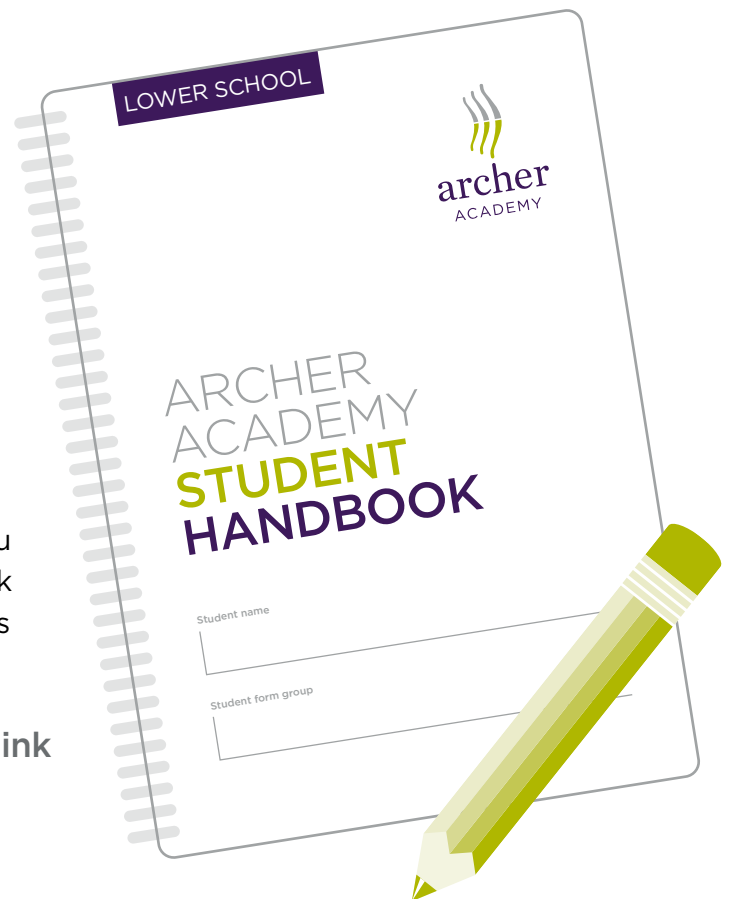
The handbook will include a double page for each week with the days and dates on. You can record the homework and projects you are set here as well as the dates when they need to be given in.

Your handbook will also include:

- Details about the school day
- Details about the school rules and expectations
- Space for your learning targets to help you improve as a learner – you will be able to set your own targets and get some help from your teachers
- Notes pages
- A plastic wallet for you to store letters or worksheets

You will need to use MS Teams to help you to manage your homework and keep track of when to hand things in to your teachers as well as your student handbook.

How organised are you? Do you think you will find this helpful?





Leadership

HOW CAN I TAKE ON A LEADERSHIP ROLE?

There will be lots of chances for you to take on leadership responsibilities within the school. Leadership opportunities will predominantly come through the House system and School Council.

THE HOUSE SYSTEM

When you start the Archer Academy you will be in one of six tutor groups, organised into three houses: **Seacole**, **Ignatius** and **Lovelace**.

The Archer Academy has a house system to benefit everyone and help you to make new friends and develop new skills. The houses provide opportunities for you to develop friendships across the age groups and work collaboratively with students in other year groups and of course, to test your competitive spirit with our house competitions. The house system also reinforces the values of the school by creating a caring, supportive environment where each student becomes a valued member of a small 'family unit' within the larger 'family' of the whole school. Would you stand to represent your house?

HOUSE CUP

Help your house to victory in the termly house cup competition by earning merit points.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our School Council is all about involving all Archers fully in the life of the school. The School Council is composed of a group of students elected to represent the student body by other students. It is a place for you to talk about things that relate to our school, and any other matters which concern you.

The School Council present ideas to the teachers and governors, so that all students have their voice heard when decisions are made. Getting involved in the School Council benefits everyone. If you decide to get involved, you will gain valuable experience in working with others, debating issues, making decisions and presenting ideas, as well as helping your fellow students and the teachers.

Our School Council elections take place in the autumn. Watch out for information in assembly about the application process.



Have you been involved in a School Council at your primary school? Could you bring any expertise to the Archer Academy to ensure that we have a successful School Council? What issues related to school life really interest you? What would you like to get involved with?

OUR THREE HOUSES



Seacole

Named after Mary Seacole

- Born in 1805, Kingston, Jamaica.
- Went to the Crimean War, to help British soldiers.
- She was hard working and determined to help people in need.
- She is an ideal choice because she didn't give up when she got rejected.
- She died on 14th May 1881 in Paddington, London.



Ignatius

Named after Ignatius Sancho

- Born on a slave ship in 1729.
- His mother died in the Spanish colony and father committed suicide because he would rather die than become a slave.
- He grew up in England, wrote poetry, plays and music, and was described as being "extraordinary".
- A book of his letters was published after his death and was an immediate best-seller.
- He died on 14th September 1780.



Lovelace

Named after Ada Lovelace

- Lived from 10th December 1815 to 27th November 1852.
- She made the world's first ever computer programme.
- She predicted that machines would one day be used for things like creating graphics and music.
- We wouldn't be able to do our homework on computers if it wasn't for her.
- Social media apps wouldn't exist without her work.

What else can you find out about these individuals? Why do you think the Archer students chose them to represent our school houses?





WHAT ARE THE EXPECTATIONS ABOUT BEHAVIOUR?

We want all Archer students to be able to learn in a safe, secure and calm environment. We have very high expectations about the behaviour of all Archers. Rules are kept to a minimum, but are in place for good reasons.

A copy of the school rules and behaviour expectations will be in your student handbook. The Archer Academy code of conduct is very simple:

- Be on time.
- Be organised and ready to learn.
- Be smartly dressed.
- Be responsible for our environment, keeping it tidy and litter free.
- Be respectful of the property of others.
- Be kind to others.
- Be respectful of the opinions of others.

If you do all of these things, you will never get into trouble. The key is to make sure you talk to a teacher or your parents quickly if you are worried about anything, so that we can help you to sort it out.

At the Archer Academy a consequence system will be in place. This will be carefully explained to you in September, so you know exactly where you stand and what might happen if you do the wrong thing. Your teachers will use the consequence system fairly and consistently.

We believe that our consequence system will give each student a fair set of rules. If you choose not to behave, you will be given a warning. You will then be given the chance to regulate your own behaviour, but if you fail to do that there will be a consequence.



Enrichment

WHAT ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

We are keen to provide our Archer students with as many exciting learning opportunities as possible. We also feel strongly that life outside the classroom is very important, and want to encourage you to discover your hidden talents and develop a range of personal interests and skills.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays when enrichment is running, normal school will finish at 3.05pm. You will have a break and then take part in enrichment activities until 4.05pm. These activities are free of charge. You will be given an online enrichment booklet with lots of information about the different opportunities that are available for you to choose from. You will then be asked to make a Tuesday choice and a Thursday choice.

The choice of activities on offer change each term, so there is always something new and exciting to try! Here are some of the choices from this year:

- Squash
- Taekwondo
- Mad science
- Jazz dance
- Archery
- Drama
- Photography
- Ceramics club
- Rock climbing
- Book club
- Tennis
- Debating
- Biodiversity club
- Website design

ADDITIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

We also run extra clubs after school such as Italian, dance, table tennis, basketball, chess, debating and trampolining. These are optional courses and there is a charge for some of these courses. We also have a free homework club every day after school to support and help you.

You will certainly have lots of fun and be very busy!



Are you looking forward to enrichment? Which opportunities do you think you will choose?



WHAT REWARDS ARE AVAILABLE?

We all like to know that we will be rewarded if we are successful and there are a number of rewards available to all Archers. However, we would also like our students to focus on working hard and learning the value of hard work. We can really only be successful if we put in 100% effort and always treat other people with kindness and respect.

Rewards are seen by the Archer Academy as a positive way in which to encourage good behaviour, motivation and academic progress.

Students may be rewarded for a number of reasons linked to the Archer Way: Achievement, Respect for Others, Curiosity, Hard Work, Enjoyment and Responsibility such as:

- Excellent work of a high academic standard
- Academic progress
- Tremendous effort
- Exemplary conduct
- Active involvement in activities or projects outside of the school day within the wider
- Community
- Extra-curricular activities
- High standards of behaviour
- Leadership within the school community and/or wider community
- Setting the standard to others/being a role model
- Support or generosity towards others
- High levels of attendance or punctuality

You will be told which of the Archer outcomes you have achieved when you receive your reward: Articulate, Analytical, Creative, Collaborative, Reflective or Resilient

REWARDS

Student rewards for each academic year are listed in the student handbook, including the type of reward and the behaviour that earns it. This might include:

- Verbal praise
- Merits
- Postcards home
- Star of the week
- Article in school newsletter

- House points
- Letters/email home/telephone call from subject teachers or form tutors
- Letters/email home/telephone call from Head of Year
- Letters/email home from Headteacher
- Lunch with the Headteacher
- Nomination for annual prize giving ceremony
- Nomination for external, national award schemes

All student rewards will be recorded in your school file.

You can also receive special annual rewards for your representation in the arts and sports. These awards will be given out at our annual prize giving ceremony at which students are awarded with Archer pins.



How do you feel about the rewards available? Which areas of school life do you think will lead you to achieve the most rewards? How competitive are you?



Learning at the Archer Academy

Curriculum

WHAT WILL THE CURRICULUM BE LIKE?

In Year 7 you will study the following subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Foreign Languages – French/Spanish
- Physical Education
- Art
- Design & Technology – Resistant Materials, Food, Graphics
- Humanities – History, Geography, Religious Education, Citizenship
- Creative & Performing Arts – Dance, Drama, Music
- Thematic learning – a project running across different subjects for half a term
- Lifelong learning

Your lessons will vary in length, so you can experience different methods of teaching and learning.

You will study English and Mathematics almost every day. You will have four hours of lessons in each subject spread across the week. Some of your lessons will be skills based where you focus on, for example, grammar in English or mental numeracy in Maths. In other lessons you will apply your understanding in more depth. For example, in English you will study more literature and have opportunities for creative writing. In Maths your lessons will focus on application and problem solving.

Your Science, Languages, Art and DT lessons will vary between an hour and two hours in length on different days. Many of these lessons will be very practical, and will take place in specialist laboratories and workshops.

Your PE lessons will take place in our incredible facilities which include an all-weather pitch, a large sports hall and a climbing wall. You will take part in a wide range of sports, including football, hockey, netball, badminton, gymnastics, trampolining and climbing.

Your Humanities and Creative and Performing Arts lessons will encompass a range of different subjects. You will have three hours a week of each subject. Sometimes you will study a specific subject discipline such as History or Dance and at other times you will study the same theme across the subjects – for example Volcanoes in Humanities or the Jazz Age in Creative and Performing Arts.

Supporting and enhancing your learning across all subjects will be thematic learning where we work on a project. These thematic projects will enable you to develop your independent learning skills. Each theme will operate for half a term and you may have a number of different subject teachers supporting you.



Which subjects are you really looking forward to? Which subjects do you find harder? Do you like the idea of depth learning slots? What topics might you suggest to the teachers? Which topics would you like to become more of an expert in?



WHAT HOMEWORK WILL I GET?

Homework is often something that children worry about when they move into Year 7. There will be more homework at the Archer Academy than you have had at primary school and this will take some getting used to. The key to managing your homework and not getting stressed by it will be in being organised. Your student handbook and MS Teams will help you organise your homework.

Homework is important because it helps you to develop strong independent learning habits. It allows you to demonstrate your understanding of the work you have done at school, prepare for new learning and learn how to manage your time and meet deadlines. We will help you to develop confident, independent learning strategies through activities at school. For the first half term we will introduce your homework slowly to help you get used to it. Homework expectations will increase steadily each year in preparation for your GCSEs.

The majority of your homework will need to be completed over the course of a week. Sometimes you will be set homework with longer periods in which to complete it, such as with essays and projects. When projects are set, you will usually be given a checkpoint date so that your teacher can support you.

Homework will be reviewed in class. Some work is peer or self-assessed, other work may be depth marked by your teacher or you will be given verbal feedback. You should always title homework tasks HWK in your exercise book or on paper.

If you have completed your homework on paper, you will need to stick it into your exercise book. Homework can also be submitted online. You will be given guidelines on how to do this when you join.

You will be given a homework timetable so that you know when each subject will set their homework. Your homework timetable is organised over two weeks so that you do not get more homework in one week than another.

MS TEAMS

The school uses an online learning platform called MS Teams where students have individual logins and can view all the homework that has been set for them and when it is due to be handed in. Parents can also use the platform to check what homework has been set, using student login details.

You will be set the following homework set every week in Year 7:

Mathematics

English (when extended reading/writing is not set, see below)

French/Spanish

Science

History/Geography

Thematic learning

You will be set the following homework every fortnight in Year 7:

Design & Technology/Art

Creative & Performing Arts

Extended reading or writing in English

An example of the homework timetable is below. It gives you timings for how long you should spend on a piece of work to help you manage your time effectively.

WEEK A

SUBJECTS SET	TIME PER TASK	
	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM
Thematic Learning	40 minutes	1 hour
English	20 minutes	45 minutes
History	40 minutes	1 hour
Maths	40 minutes	1 hour
Science	30 minutes	1 hour
French/Spanish	35 minutes	50 minutes
Art	1 hour	2 hours

WEEK B

SUBJECT SET	TIME PER TASK	
	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM
English extended writing task	30 minutes	1 hour
Thematic Learning	40 minutes	1 hour
Geography	40 minutes	1 hour
Maths	40 minutes	1 hour
Science	30 minutes	1 hour
French/Spanish	35 minutes	50 minutes
Creative & Performing Arts	40 minutes	1 hour

THEMATIC LEARNING

Your thematic learning will be focused on one topic per half term. Depending on the topic, your teachers might set fortnightly homework tasks or a project style homework. Sometimes your teachers might ask you to set your own homework, depending on how you are managing your thematic learning.

WHAT IF I NEED HELP WITH MY HOMEWORK?

There will be lots of help available to you at school to support you with your homework. We have a free Homework Club which runs after school every day. At Homework Club teachers will be available to support you and there will be access to computers and books.

You might find it useful to get into a habit with Homework Club, for example going on certain days every week. Going to Homework Club regularly will mean that you have less work to complete at home in the evenings and at the weekend.

Please don't worry about homework; you will get used to it very quickly and might even start to enjoy it!

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I DON'T DO MY HOMEWORK?

It is important that you complete your homework and submit it on time. If you are ever unsure of or unclear about your instructions, you should speak to your class teacher quickly. You will always be given a week to complete homework tasks, so there is plenty of time for you to talk to your teachers and ask for help.

If you forget your homework once, your teacher will give you a day's grace, however if it happens again, you will be given a homework detention.

Top tips for homework:

- 1 Check MS Teams every day.
- 2 Record any notes about your homework in your student handbook.
- 3 Have a folder in your school bag to store worksheets and instructions for homework tasks.
- 4 Have a memory stick to back up all your school work on.
- 5 Have a clear and quiet space at home to complete your homework.
- 6 Make sure you have things such as a dictionary at home to help you.
- 7 Create your own homework timetable so that you can organise your work around other activities.
- 8 Don't leave homework to the last minute.
- 9 Ask for help if you need it.



Are you worried about homework? If so, make sure you talk through this information with someone at home. What will you need to do to make sure you are organised with your work? Would you find going to Homework Club helpful?



HOW WILL I KNOW HOW WELL I AM DOING?

Your new teachers know how hard you worked throughout Year 6. We want to make sure that you make excellent progress in all of your subjects and that you always feel confident about what you need to do to improve.

Your Archer teachers will talk to your primary school teachers about you and discuss the areas that you do well in and the things you find more difficult. We will use this in addition to your summer challenges, to help us plan your new learning and set your individual learning targets.

In September, you will sit some baseline assessments to help us to fully understand your abilities. These assessments are not something you should worry about and we will help you to prepare for them. You will also complete assessments before half term in English, Maths and Science and we will use this information to put you into sets for these subjects in October.

Your teachers will assess your progress regularly throughout the academic year and they will talk to you about your levels and give you targets to help you move forwards. At the end of each academic year, in the summer term, you will sit formal examinations in each subject.

It is important that you know how well you are doing in each subject from lesson to lesson. Your teachers will mark your books at least once a fortnight, giving you a **WWW** (what went well) and an **EBI** (even better if) on key pieces of work.

Your teachers will also give you an effort grade for some pieces of work. The effort grades are shown below.

Effort grades:

1 Outstanding:

You have worked really well and completed the task to an excellent standard.

2 Good:

You have made good effort and completed the task well.

3 Satisfactory:

You have made some effort and parts of the work reflect this.

4 Unsatisfactory:

You have made little effort and your work reflects this.

Your grades will be collected from all of your teachers at the end of each term and these will be sent home to your parents in the form of a report. We also ask you and your parents to come in and meet with your teachers at the end of each term on a Learning Review Day. This will allow us to celebrate your achievements over that term and plan targets for the next one.

The progress report that you will get at the end of each term will include scores related to your effort and your homework, alongside your level of attainment in each subject. Scores for your effort and homework will be given on a scale of 1-4, with 1 being outstanding and 4 being poor. These scores, along with your attainment grades, will form the basis of the target setting conversations which you, your parents and form tutor will have at your Learning Review Day.

At Learning Review Day you will set your own Independent Learning Plan (ILP). Your ILP will enable you to set yourself targets to help accelerate your progress and confidence in learning. You will review these targets each term and once you have met them, set new ones.

If you, your parents or your teachers are worried about your progress, we will give you extra help, such as booster classes or extra tuition.



**What questions do you have about your levels and what they mean?
Which subjects are you more confident in? What targets do you think
your Year 6 teacher might set you?**



WHAT IF I AM FINDING MY WORK DIFFICULT?

Everyone finds school difficult sometimes, it is perfectly normal. The important thing is that you talk to someone if you find yourself struggling or becoming anxious.

At school the first person you should talk to should be your form tutor or head of year. They will listen to you and might ask you some questions to help get to the bottom of the situation. Your form tutor or head of year will then either talk through some strategies with you to help you solve the problem, or put some support in place to help you.

Alternatively, you might want to talk to someone at home first. Your parents can then help you by arranging a meeting with a teacher at school, or they might be able to talk through some strategies with you to help you sort things out.

The key is not to let a problem build up. Your teachers and family all want to support you and will do anything they can to help you be happy and successful.

If you are finding homework difficult, your teachers might encourage you to go to Homework Club. If you are finding a particular subject difficult, your teacher might ask you to come and see them at lunchtime or after school, so that they can give you some extra help.



Are there any things that are playing on your mind that you might like to share with your family or teachers now?