

# Home learning guide for families

## Home learning: our approach

Home Learning at Beckfoot incorporates three elements:

- Independent Learning Booklets (ILBs)
- Class Charts
- Clear and Consistent Homework.

This booklet will outline our expectations of students, as well as offer useful information to help families support students with their home learning.

## Why is home learning important?

Like any activity, we only get better if we practice. Home Learning offers an important opportunity for our students to practice the knowledge and skills they learn in class. The Education Endowment Foundation research shows that effective Home Learning can improve student's progress by 5-6 months. All of this means that Home Learning is an important part of our overall curriculum, an entitlement, and an expectation of every student.

## How can families support home learning?

You don't need to remember everything you learnt at school to help your child with their learning at home. So much has changed over the years that, the most important thing families can do is ask questions about what children are learning and help them to organise their time. If you can help them in any way, they will love it. If they know more than you, just ask them to explain the topic and how they know their answers are right. All they really need is your time and enthusiasm and then the learning will take care of itself. Here are some suggestions that may help get things going:

- Praise, encourage, and ask your child questions about their Home Learning
- Regularly look through your child's Independent Learning Booklet with them
- Watch the Independent Learning videos on our website:
- Help keep a Home Learning routine for your child, including checking Class Charts
- Encourage your child to use the after-school Homework Hub
- Contact us with any questions via Class Charts or email

It is so important that we all work together to ensure all students can achieve great things. As well as the suggestions described above, reading the following information will ensure you understand exactly what our approach entails, as well as what is expected of our students.

# Independent learning booklets

## What is the ILB and how is it used?

- The ILB must be brought to school every day
- Students must have the ILB out on the desk at tutor time so their tutor can check it
- Students will receive a new booklet every half term

## Inside the ILB there are lots of important sections:

- Instructions for logging onto Class Charts
- Instructions for homework in every subject
- Independent Learning Instructions
- Knowledge Organisers with Independent Learning activities
- Learn Like a Beckfooter Instructions – Reading, Revision, Reflection
- Space for messages between home and school

## Independent learning at Beckfoot

- We expect students to do 5 tasks per week as a minimum
- We will set the tasks for them each week on Class Charts
- KS3 students will do Quiz It, Link It, Map It, Shrink It activities in their ILBs
- KS4 students will do Revise Like a Beckfooter activities in their ILBs
- Students decide which subjects you are going to work on
- We will teach students how to do each of these activities and give them time to practice them each week in tutor time
- Tutors will check ILBs for independent learning – if students are not doing enough, they will be awarded a detention and families will be notified
- If students do more than the minimum amount, they will receive reward points
- Families will be notified straight away if their children are not doing enough independent learning

## Homework at Beckfoot

- Homework assignments will be set on Class Charts
- Students should check Class Charts every evening after school
- Teachers will register the homework students hand in
- Families will be notified straight away if students do not do their homework

## Weekly missed homework/independent learning sanctions

- 2 = after school detention
- 4 = 2 x after school detention
- 6 = leadership team detention

# Class Charts

## What is Class Charts?

Class Charts is an online system which teachers use to set and track homework, achievement and more. One of the many benefits of using Class Charts is that we can securely share your child's homework assignments, deadlines, and submissions with you and keep you up to date in real-time.

## How is Class Charts used for homework?

**Teachers** will set all homework assignments using the Class Charts system. This means that at any time, students and their families can see exactly what homework has been set, and when the homework is due in. They can also see roughly how long each assignment should take, which will help them to manage their time.

**Tutors** will also use Class Charts to keep records of how well students are engaging with Independent Learning. They will regularly check students' ILBs for evidence of Quiz It Link It Map It Shrink It activities being completed. Successes and concerns around Independent Learning will also be recorded on Class Charts.

**Students** should get into the habit of checking Class Charts every evening, so that they know what deadlines they have coming up and can check off their homework as they go. They simply log into the system via a mobile phone, or other device, and they can see the details of their homework tasks.

Students can log into Class Charts here: <https://www.classcharts.com/account/login/share>

**Families** can also check Class Charts, using their parent access code. This makes it easy for families to see what Homework has been set, and anything that may be yet to complete. This will help families to support students in meeting deadlines and organising their time.

Families can log into Class Charts here: <https://www.classcharts.com/account/login/share>

Students and families will also receive notifications when homework tasks are set, submitted, or if any deadlines are missed.



# Home learning expectations

## Students

- Engage fully in all Homework set, and do it to the best of your ability
- Complete 5 Independent Learning tasks each week, using 'Quiz It, Link It, Map It, Shrink It' (KS3) or 'Revise Like a Beckfooter' (KS4)
- Meet all deadlines
- Catch up on any work missed due to absence
- Check Class Charts every day to stay on track with Homework

## Tutors

- Regularly check that independent learning is being done (At least 5 tasks per week)
- Issue the appropriate sanction where this is not being done
- Celebrate successes by giving reward points via Class Charts

## Teachers

- Set all Homework assignments in line with faculty policy
- Set Homework as assignments on Class Charts and give out hard copies of resources
- Register submissions using Class Charts
- Inform teachers/Heads of Year, via Class Charts, where Homework is not being done
- Inform families, via Class Charts, where Homework is not being done
- Celebrate successes and share via Class Charts
- Ensure lessons include regular retrieval practice to support students' Home Learning
- Inform students in advance about what they will be quizzed on
- Provide feedback that helps students to improve
- Issue appropriate rewards for effort and achievement in Home Learning
- Issue appropriate sanctions for missed, incomplete, or poor-quality Home Learning

## Further help with Home Learning

More information about Home Learning, is available on the Home Learning page of our school website, including:

- How to use Class Charts
- Homework instructions
- Electronic copies of our Independent Learning booklets
- How to use our independent learning strategies

As ever, we love to hear your feedback, and are always happy to answer any questions you may have, so please don't hesitate to get in touch with us if you have anything you would like to discuss.