

Independent Learning (IL) descriptors 2025-26

Independent learning is defined as all work that is completed outside of the classroom. This may be different in different year groups. Homework is a key aspect of independent learning, but as students move up through the school we would also expect the level of independence in their additional reading and research to increase.

Excellent = 1

These students:

- complete all set independent learning tasks punctually and to a high standard
- take pride in their work and their work demonstrates a high level of effort
- take independent responsibility to extend their learning, demonstrating curiosity beyond the curriculum
- always take ownership for completing any missed work and missed learning
- always seek support and help prior to deadlines, when required
- ensure their independent learning impacts positively on their progress

Good = 2

These students:

- complete all set independent learning tasks punctually and to a good standard
- take pride in their work and their work demonstrates a good level of effort
- sometimes need guidance and encouragement to take responsibility to extend their learning independently
- always take ownership for completing any missed work
- often seek support and help prior to deadlines, when required
- ensure their independent learning impacts positively on their progress

Inconsistent = 3

These students:

- sometimes complete set independent learning tasks punctually and the work produced is of a variable standard
- sometimes produce work that is incomplete or lacks effort
- produce work that can appear rushed and lacks care
- rarely take responsibility to extend their learning independently and often fail to take ownership for completing any missed work
- do not often seek help and support prior to deadlines
- are inconsistent in independent learning and it does not always impact positively on their progress

Poor = 4

These students:

- do not often complete set independent learning tasks, either satisfactorily or punctually
- produce work that appears rushed, lacks effort and care
- are not engaged in extending their learning independently and fail to take ownership for completing any missed work.
- do not seek help and support prior to deadlines
- lack independent learning and this impacts negatively on their progress