



EMMANUEL AND  
GRACE COLLEGE  
*Associated Sixth Form*

## SIXTH FORM INDEPENDENT STUDY POLICY

I understand that the Sixth Form Independent Study Policy is as follows:

The purpose of Directed Learning (DL) periods is to deepen students' understanding of their subjects while developing organisational skills, responsibility, and self-motivation. The subjects require students to manage their own learning outside of taught lessons and this is good preparation for adult life. All students will have six Directed Learning (DL) periods on their timetable. Students who do not participate in College sports teams or other approved co-curricular activities will usually have these periods replaced by two additional DL periods, giving them a total of eight DL periods per week. During Directed Learning periods, students stay onsite and work through the tasks assigned to them by their academic teachers. DL periods are a compulsory part of a student's timetable at Emmanuel College, and we have high expectations of student engagement during these periods. Homework will be set as an additional task. Students will receive a minimum of six hours of work outside of lesson time per subject each week to maintain their progress through the curriculum. Those six hours will be a combination of directed tasks, revision and consolidation activities as well as directed homework tasks on new content.

A range of study spaces is available to Sixth Form students. Students may choose to work in the Sixth Form Bistro, Sixth Form Centre, Sixth Form Open Area, the Library or the Loaves and Fishes Restaurant. Those who prefer a completely silent environment may use the Silent Study Space, which is usually supervised by a member of staff.

Students who struggle to study independently, miss deadlines or repeatedly submit substandard work may be referred by their teacher to attend additional interventions.

The best guide for success is that students complete revision and consolidation activities in College and homework at home. If work is completed this way, then both will occur. If homework is completed in school, the revision and consolidation activities will not be done. The mindset of students regarding the completion of their homework should change from GCSE. If students are set homework they do not understand or need help with, they must proactively find their teacher in advance of their next lesson, to seek this help. It is not acceptable in Sixth Form for students to repeatedly turn up to lessons with homework incomplete or of a poor standard. Students who achieve their target grade are those who get help from teachers before deadlines, not after work being due.

Revision should take place on a weekly basis for all subjects. The most successful students are ones who build in dedicated revision time every week for each subject. Students whose week consists solely of completing new tasks and who then cram before an assessment will find they achieve grades far less than their personal best. The complexity and quantity of content in Sixth Form subjects requires students to revise every week. The Personal Development programme will support students with the most effective revision strategies, but it is important to stress that effective revision begins with students including it in their weekly schedule of work, starting at the beginning of September.