



## **Excelsior Academy Policy for Independent Learning**

At Excelsior Academy we believe that learning is a lifelong activity and recognise the importance of enabling our pupils to be independent lifelong learners. We aim to develop a learning community where all pupils and adults can enjoy being learners. We believe that all of our pupils should want to learn, should develop the ability to take responsibility for their own learning and develop the skills necessary to learn independently. In order to maximise their potential and take full advantage of their learning opportunities we expect all pupils to routinely and regularly complete teaching and learning activities beyond the classroom and beyond the parameters of the usual school day.

Teaching and learning activities can take on many forms including for example reading, research, completing coursework as well as completing the traditional subject specific set tasks. Some tasks may require pupils to access ICT facilities including the INTERNET. Where this is the case it will not be necessary for pupils to have INTERNET access at home as ICT and INTERNET provision for Independent Learning will be made available at Excelsior for all pupils beyond the usual Academy day.

The time that Excelsior Academy expects pupils to spend engaged in independent learning depends on their age and stage of learning.

Our recommended **minimum** requirement is  
Y7 pupils -the equivalent of 7 hours a  
Y8 Pupils – the equivalent of 8 hours a week  
Y9 pupils – the equivalent of 8 hours a week  
Y10 and Y11 Pupils – the equivalent of 10 hours a week

### **Excelsior Curriculum and Learning staff are responsible for:-**

- Identifying and setting appropriate independent learning activities. All activities set for Independent learning must be relevant and appropriate to the current programmes of study for the individual pupil.
- Monitoring and assessing each pupil's progress and reporting to pupils staff and parents as appropriate.
- Ensuring that independent learning activities are communicated effectively to all pupils and carers including throughout internal INTRANET system
- Identifying time scales for completion of activities.
- Liaising with appropriate pupils welfare and development staff to identify and deliver additional support that pupils might need in order to fully engage with our expectations for their independent learning.

**Pupils are responsible for:-**

- Completing all set activities to the best of their ability
- Ensuring that their work is handed to the relevant staff member by the deadline for completion date.
- Identifying and discussing any concerns they might have, particularly any that might mean that they are unable to complete the task as required with an appropriate staff member before the deadline date for completion.

**Parents/ carers are responsible for**

- Supporting and encouraging their children to complete all independent learning activities to the best of their ability within the set timescales.
- discussing their learning with their sons/ daughters.
- Contacting their child's Personal Mentor if they have any concerns or if they feel that their son/ daughter is not being set work to complete within our minimum requirement of time.

P. M. Marshall  
Executive Principal  
Excelsior Academy