

Monday 6th March 2023

Dear parents and carers

Home Learning

As we continue to drive standards in the academy, we have been focused on our 'Ready to Learn' elements of our Culture Code. An important part to this is ensuring that students are equipped with the right equipment. As a minimum, this should be:

- their Character Card
- Home learning Planner
- black pen
- green pen
- rubber
- ruler
- pencil
- suitably sized school bag.

Should a student not have an item of equipment, we will provide it to them but should they then lose equipment, it will be noted as a negative point in their Character Card. As outlined in previous communications, should a student accrue a full negative Character Card (5 negative points) an after-school detention will be issued.

Home Learning Expectations

Home Learning at Kirk Hallam Community Academy is an integral part of blended learning. Home Learning has many benefits; it increases learning potential, develops students' independent skills and builds students' confidence. A key focus of Home Learning is setting tasks that engage students in thinking, so that the knowledge that students learn in school will stick in their memory.

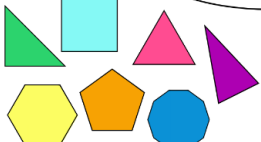

Vocabulary Home Learning

Expanding and deepening an individual's vocabulary is important for them to develop their knowledge and communication skills. Starting this week, in addition to usual home learning set by the teacher, students in years 7 – 10 will be given a subject specific key word, once a week in each of their subjects to learn.

To facilitate this, we will be adopting the *Fraye Model*. This visual model has a proven, research driven track record in the classroom. It is a simple but effective model to help students to organise their understanding of a new words and increase their vocabulary.

The template for the Frayer Model and an example of a completed model are shown below:

Definition <i>Write a definition of the word in your own words</i>	Facts/characteristics <i>Write facts about the word or identify characteristics of the word</i>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Word </div>	
<i>Give a clear example of the word - this can be written or drawn</i>	<i>Give a clear non-example of the word - This can be written or drawn</i>
Examples	Non-Examples

DEFINITION A polygon is a closed shape with straight sides and angles. The word polygon comes from Greek and means many (poly) angles (gon).	CHARACTERISTICS 1. Straight Lines, 2. Closed, 3. Angles, 4. More than two sides, 5. No curves
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> POLYGONS </div>	
EXAMPLES 	NON-EXAMPLES 

To help students with their organisation of home learning, they will either be given a template of the Frayer Model by their teacher to complete, or they will be asked to use their new vocabulary books which will be distributed this week.

Students will record the word that have been set for home learning in their planner and use the vocabulary book to complete the work, as per the examples above.

The vocabulary book will allow them to keep their growing vocabulary in one place. They can use this at any point to return to the vocabulary they have learnt by using the Frayer model and recap prior learning.

We appreciate your support in ensuring that your child comes to school with the right equipment and supporting them with their completion of home learning.

Yours sincerely,



Miss M Cassidy
 Assistant Headteacher