Home Learning and Retrieval Policy

At John Willmott School we prioritise quality first teaching and our extensive development of ‘Teaching and Learning’ through our EEE model as well as Curriculum and Assessment ensure that students learn well.

To consolidate their learning it is crucial that all students regularly and independently practise retrieval of key knowledge which is fundamental for them to be able to develop their fluency and application as well as make links to prior learning and deepen their understanding. This also reflects LORIC characteristics: Organisation; Resilience and Initiative.

To facilitate this in Years 7-9 students are issued Knowledge Organisers for every subject which they are expected to use each night. Form Time on Thursdays are also used to promote their use, alongside their Home Learning book. Testing of this learning and retrieval practice will be during the phases of learning in lesson time: Routines; Explanation; Modelling; Questioning; Deliberate Practice and Feedback. Added to this, students may be asked to improve work returning to specific areas of their Knowledge Organiser.

In Years 10 and 11 students have Knowledge Organisers for some subjects which they should use routinely; they may also be set specific revision, research or written tasks. As in earlier years, it is important that students understand that consolidation of their learning and continued recall and retrieval is crucial to them developing as independent learners and will allow them to develop their ideas within and between subjects and between new and previous learning as well as ensuring knowledge is transferred to the long term memory.

Teachers will routinely assess students’ Home Learning through classroom based assessment, as outlined above. If students are not consolidating their learning in line with our Home Learning and Retrieval Policy teachers will contact home so that this can be communicated. If this does not improve the Head of Faculty will ask for a parental meeting to take place.