

BAR LANE  
OLD BASFORD  
NOTTINGHAM  
NG6 0HT

PRINCIPAL: CHRIS KEEN  
T +44 (0)115 913 1338  
E [enquiries@ellisguilfordschool.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ellisguilfordschool.org.uk)  
[www.ellisguilfordschool.org.uk](http://www.ellisguilfordschool.org.uk)



**ELLIS  
GUILFORD  
SCHOOL**  
*Creative  
Education  
Trust*

Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As your child enters the most important year of their academic career to date, I know you will be keen to find ways to support them as best you can. I'm writing to update you on the math's homework policy at Ellis Guilford for Year 11 that's coming into effect this September so that you can help support your child's effort across the year. As ever, we will be putting on revision and intervention classes, but the more work students can do independently the more successful we know they can be. As a result of this, we are increasing our emphasis on the use of Hegarty Maths to support and develop your child's ability to improve their mathematics independently.

Hegarty Maths is a platform that all of the students are familiar with as it was used over lockdown to aid with the remote learning package. For those of you not aware, it is a website that has broken down the mathematics curriculum into bitesize pieces with accompanying videos and tasks. The website provides instant feedback to students and can direct them to the correct part of a video should they need help. This is not to replace any of the teaching they will receive, merely to add to the support they will get and to increase the effectiveness of their own independent work.

As you may be aware, we expect this group to be the first set of students sitting national GCSE exams from May and we want to ensure each student is as prepared as possible. The GCSE mathematics exam consist of 3 papers, each lasting 90-minutes containing some 30+ questions. Students need a firm grasp of so many ideas going into the exam that the quicker they start getting prepared and the more time and effort they put in the more successful they are going to be. The best way to revise and prepare for a mathematics exam is to do mathematics.

This year the expectation is for every Year 11 pupil at Ellis Guilford to be completing 5 pieces of maths homework across the week, at least one task will be set each day by the teachers here. Tasks should take approximately 10-20 minutes to complete. So, you know what success looks like, students will either have to achieve a total of 75+% on the task set or will have to take a comprehensive set of notes from the video if it is a topic that they are unable to achieve the 75% mark. Students who do not achieve that score and have no evidence of attempting to re-learn the content by taking notes will be deemed to have not completed that day's task. To support with any IT issues there will be a



space available in school where students can use their Chromebooks and the school's Wi-Fi to complete the task. If there is any reason why a student is unable to complete a task on a day, please contact the school or write a note for the teacher so we can try to fix the issue as soon as possible.

We would be incredibly grateful for any support you can give your child at home by doing any or all of the following:

- finding a set place or time where your child can complete their maths homework,
- asking about the work they are doing (remember, there is no need to know or do any of the maths, the website will take care of all of that),
- reminding them about the tasks,
- doing tasks with them on occasion,
- encouraging them to use Hegarty Maths for extra revision even if all of their tasks are complete (students can self-direct on the website and there are great features called 'Fix Up 5' and 'Memri' that personalises tasks for the user based on their historic scores).

If you have any questions then please get in touch with the Head of Maths, Marianah Edgar at [marianah.edgar@ellisguilfordschool.org.uk](mailto:marianah.edgar@ellisguilfordschool.org.uk). We look forward to launching this with your support and seeing the benefits it will have on your child's education and future.

*M Edgar*

M Edgar  
Head of Faculty for Maths