

Learning Guide for Students and Parents

English



w.c 14th September 2026

Learning Guide for Parents and Students

The school supports home learning by providing lessons, resources, homework, and communication through Microsoft Teams, supported by several online learning platforms and additional educational resources. If a student cannot attend school due to medical or disciplinary reasons, the school will provide resources so learning can continue from home and disruption to education is minimised.

Further guidance for parents on how they can support their child's learning, including preparing for assessments and examinations, is available at - [Study Hacks — From the Sidelines](#)

How learning is provided

- All teaching materials are shared through Microsoft Teams.
- Students are automatically enrolled in Teams for each of their subjects.
- Teachers upload lesson resources, activities and assignments, homework and messages and updates.
- Resources are available before the scheduled lesson time.
- Students access Teams using their school email account.

Weekly learning information

- Remote learning guides are published on the school website and the App every Friday.
- They are also shared on students' year group Microsoft Teams.
- Teachers can be contacted via email for questions about learning.
- Department Head email addresses are included in the guides for subject-specific queries.

Online learning platforms

Students may also be set work on:

- Seneca Learning (all subjects) <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>
- Up Learn (A-Level Science) <https://www.uplearn.co.uk/>
- Sparx Maths (Key Stages 3 and 4 Maths) <https://sparxmaths.com/>
- Kerboodle (Key Stages 3 and 4 Science) <https://www.kerboodle.com/>

Additional learning resources are available on:

- Oak National Academy <https://www.thenational.academy/>
- BBC Bitesize [Home - BBC Bitesize](#)

Reading expectations

Research shows that regular reading has a significant positive impact on children's educational achievement, vocabulary development and wellbeing. We encourage all students to read for at least 20–30 minutes each day, both in and out of school. As a guide, students should aim to complete at least one age-appropriate book every two to three weeks, although confident readers may read more frequently.

- Read for pleasure regularly.
- Aim to read approximately one book per week.
- Access news and current affairs through The Day <https://theday.co.uk/>

- Borrow books from the school library.

Passwords and support

- Students have Microsoft Teams for all lessons. They can access these Teams using their email accounts.
- Teachers will regularly show students how to access the Teams groups.
- Students record passwords for online resources in their school planner.
- If there are difficulties accessing digital resources, parents should contact the student's Year Manager or Year Coordinator, or the school directly at enquiry@holte.bham.sch.uk.

Good attendance is essential for academic success. Missing school can lead to gaps in learning that may affect a student's confidence, progress and achievement. Although we provide learning resources when necessary, attending school remains the best way for students to access high-quality teaching and support.

Year 7

Head of Department: Mr G. Edwards g.edwards@holte.bham.sch.uk

What is your child learning this term?

This half-term Year 7 will be focusing on the topic of 'The Novel' with a key focus on different novels. This topic will allow pupils to transition into Year 7 by focusing on many aspects of spelling, grammar and punctuation with some opportunities of language analysis. They will be given the opportunity to develop their own ideas through a baseline assessment descriptive and narrative writing.

They will then study a range of texts with a dystopian theme, with a focus on language analysis.

Resources available:

Senecalearning.co.uk

Bbcbite size.co.uk

KS3 revision guides

Pupils will be expected to read independently at home for 20-30 minutes minimum each night. Pupils will also need to learn their September and October Tier 2 spellings. Homework will be set by individual teachers.

Class	Teacher	Lessons, including homework deadlines & resources
7EN1	Miss Hunter, Mrs Dhansey and Mrs Jagpal	Friday 18th September (Miss Hunter) Complete all tasks and attached activities in 'The Novel.'
7EN2	Miss Shami, Mrs Dhansey	Monday 14th September 2026 (JAS) Complete all tasks and attached activities in The Novel Tuesday 15th September 2026 (JAS) Complete all tasks and attached activities in The Novel Friday 18th September 2026 (JAS) Complete all tasks and attached activities in The Novel
7EN3	Miss Mohamed	Monday 14th September 2026 (Miss Mohamed) Complete all tasks and attached activities in The Novel Tuesday 15th September 2026 (Miss Mohamed) Complete all tasks and attached activities in The Novel Friday 18th September 2026 (Miss Mohamed) Complete all tasks and attached activities in The Novel
7EN4	Miss Saiyed	
7EN5	Mrs Dhansey and Mrs Jagpal	Wednesday 16th September 2026 (NBD) Complete all tasks and attached activities in 'The Novel'. Thursday 17th September 2026 (NBD)
7EN6	Miss Mohamed & Miss Shami	Tuesday 15th September 2026 (Miss Mohamed) Complete all tasks and attached activities in The Novel Wednesday 16th September 2026 (Miss Mohamed) Complete all tasks and attached activities in The Novel

7EN7	Miss Shami, Miss Saiyed & Mr Groves	Tuesday 15th September 2026 (JAS) Complete all tasks and attached activities in The Novel Wednesday 16th September 2026 (JAS) Complete all tasks and attached activities in The Novel
7EN8	Mr Edwards & Miss Saiyed	Thursday 17th September (Mr Edwards) Lesson 5 – Dystopian novel
7N/EN	Miss Lynch	Tuesday 15th September 2026 Complete set tasks and attached activities in The Novel L2 Wednesday 16th September 2026 Complete set tasks and attached activities in The Novel L3 Thursday 17th September 2026 Complete set tasks and attached activities in Reading L1

Year 8		
Head of Department: Mr G. Edwards g.edwards@holte.bham.sch.uk		
What is your child learning this term?		
This half-term pupils will focus on the topic of ‘Literature festival Part 1: The Gothic – Poetry and Prose.’ Pupils will study prose, poetry and context of the Gothic genre. Pupils will work towards writing a piece of descriptive writing, using their knowledge of Gothic conventions, as well as analyse poetry explaining how the genre has been demonstrated within poetry. <u>Resources available:</u> Senecalearning.co.uk Bbcbitesize.co.uk KS3 revision guides Pupils will be expected to read independently at home for 20-30 minutes minimum each night. Homework will be set by individual teachers.		
Class	Teacher	Lessons, including homework deadlines & resources
8EN1	Miss Mohamed & Mrs Jagpal	Monday 14th September 2026 (Miss Mohamed) Complete all tasks and attached activities in ‘The Gothic’. Thursday 17th September 2026 (Miss Mohamed) Complete all tasks and attached activities in ‘The Gothic’. Homework – Seneca tasks.
8EN2	Miss Hunter, Mr Groves & Mr Edwards	Monday 14th September 2026 (Miss Hunter) Complete all tasks and attached activities in ‘The Gothic’. Thursday 17th September 2026 (Miss Hunter) Complete all tasks and attached activities in ‘The Gothic’.
8EN3	Mrs Dhansey and Miss Shami	Monday 14th September 2026 (Mrs Dhansey) Complete all tasks and attached activities in ‘The Gothic’. Thursday 17th September 2026 (Mrs Dhansey) Complete all tasks and attached activities in ‘The Gothic’. Friday 18th September (Mr Harrison)

		Reading skills and fiction reading lesson
8EN4	Mrs Ali and Miss Shami	
8EN5	Mr Edwards	Monday 14th September The Gothic – lesson 3 Wednesday 16th September The Gothic – lesson 4 Friday 18th September The Gothic – lesson 5 Homework Seneca tasks
8EN6	Miss Saiyed	
8EN7	Mrs Ali	
8EN8	Mrs Jagpal	Wednesday 16th September 2026 (Mrs Dhansey) Complete all tasks and attached activities in 'Reading Lesson'.

Year 9		
Head of Department: Mr G. Edwards g.edwards@holte.bham.sch.uk		
What is your child learning this term?		
This term pupils in Year 9 will focus on Literature Festival Part 1: Voices in Fiction. Pupils will study a range of post-1914 fiction texts. They will analyse extracts from the texts, before writing their own narrative piece. <u>Resources available:</u> Senecalearning.co.uk Bbcbitesize.co.uk KS3 revision guides Pupils will be expected to read independently at home for 20-30 minutes minimum each night. Homework will be set by individual teachers.		
Class	Teacher	Lessons, including deadlines & resources
9EN1	Mrs Ali	
9EN2	Mr Harrison	Tuesday 15th September 2026 Complete all tasks and attached activities in Voices in Fiction Wednesday 16th September 2026 Complete all tasks and attached activities in Voices in Fiction Thursday 17th September 2026 Complete all tasks and attached activities in Voices in Fiction
9EN3	Miss Shami & Miss Saiyed	Tuesday 15th September 2026 Complete all tasks and attached activities in Voices in Fiction Wednesday 16th September 2026 Complete all tasks and attached activities in Voices in Fiction Thursday 17th September 2026 Complete all tasks and attached activities in Voices in Fiction
9EN4	Mrs Jagpal	
9EN5	Miss Shami and Miss Saiyed	Monday 14th September 2026 (JAS) Reading Lesson – We are Displaced by Malala Yousafzai
9EN6	Miss Mohamed	Monday 14th September 2026 (Miss Mohamed)

		Complete all tasks and attached activities in 'Voices in Fiction'. Wednesday 16th September 2026 (Miss Mohamed) Complete all tasks and attached activities in 'Voices in Fiction'. Homework – Seneca tasks.
9EN7	Mrs Dhansey and Miss Shami	Monday 14th September 2026 (NBD) Complete all tasks and attached activities in 'Voices in Fiction'. Wednesday 16th September 2026 (NBD) Complete all tasks and attached activities in 'Voices in Fiction'. Thursday 17th September 2026 (JAS) Reading Lesson – We are Displaced by Malala Yousafzai
9EN8	Miss Hunter	Monday 14th September 2026 (Miss Hunter) Complete all tasks and attached activities in 'Voices in Fiction'. Wednesday 16th September 2026 (Miss Hunter) Complete all tasks and attached activities in 'Voices in Fiction'.

Year 10		
Head of Department: Mr G. Edwards g.edwards@holte.bham.sch.uk		
What is your child learning this term?		
This half term we will be looking at AQA GCSE English language Paper One – Creative Reading and Writing. We will be working on Section A of the exam which focuses on reading. The skills pupils will develop include summarising, language analysis and structure analysis. Following this, pupils will begin to study one of the set texts for English Literature: <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> . Pupils will recap the plot of the play and start to learn about characters and themes in more detail.		
Class	Teacher	Lessons, including homework deadlines & resources
10EN1	Mrs Dhansey	Monday 14th September 2026 Complete all tasks and activities on 'Language Paper 1 - Section A'. Tuesday 15th September 2026 Complete all tasks and activities on 'Language Paper 1 - Section A'. Wednesday 16th September 2026 Complete all tasks and activities on 'Language Paper 1 - Section A'. Thursday 17th September 2026 Complete all tasks and activities on 'Language Paper 1 - Section A'.
10EN2	Miss Mohamed & Miss Saiyed	Tuesday 15th September 2026 (Miss Mohamed) Complete all tasks and activities on 'Romeo and Juliet'. Thursday 17th September 2026 (Miss Mohamed) Complete all tasks and activities on 'Romeo and Juliet'. Homework – Complete written task set.
10EN3	Miss Hunter and Mrs Jagpal	Monday 14th September (Miss Hunter) Complete all tasks and activities on 'Romeo and Juliet'. Tuesday 15th September (Miss Hunter)

		Complete all tasks and activities on 'Romeo and Juliet.' Thursday 17th September (Miss Hunter) Complete all tasks and activities on 'Romeo and Juliet.' Homework: Complete extended writing all resources given in lesson.
10EN4	Miss Shami & Mrs Ali	Tuesday 15th September 2026 (JAS) Language Paper 1 - Section A Wednesday 16th September 2026 (JAS) Language Paper 1 - Section A
10EN5	Mrs Jagpal and Mr Edwards	
10EN6	Ms Sadique	
10EN7	Mrs Dhansey and Mr Harrison	Monday 14th September 2026 (NBD) Complete all tasks and activities on 'Romeo and Juliet'. Wednesday 16th September (Mr Harrison) English Language Paper 1 question 2 - language Friday 18th September (Mr Harrison) English Language Paper 1 question 2 – language Friday 18th September 2026 (NBD) Complete all tasks and activities on 'Romeo and Juliet'. Homework - https://app.senecalearning.com/dashboard/class/o0wozr7awa/assignments/assignment/c3f84330-8959-4190-9f5b-a2c2eef269fc?suggestedProvider=microsoft
10EN8	Miss Shami & Miss Hunter	Monday 14th September (Miss Hunter) Language Paper 1 – Question 2 Wednesday 16th September 2026 (JAS) Literature Paper 1 – Section A Friday 18th September (Miss Hunter) Language Paper 1 – Question 2
Year 11		
Head of Department: Mr G. Edwards g.edwards@holte.bham.sch.uk		
What is your child learning this term?		
During this half term pupils will recap and revise the requirements of English Language Paper 1. Pupils will be given guidance on how to improve their analysis of fiction and their own creative writing. In English Literature, pupils will develop their understanding of Shakespeare's <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> . They will learn more about the writer's use of language and how to structure essays responding to exam questions.		
Class	Teacher	Lessons, including homework deadlines & resources
11EN1	Mrs Jagpal and Mr Harrison	Monday 14th September (Mr Harrison) English Language Paper 1 question 3 Wednesday 16th September (Mr Harrison) English Language Paper 1 question 4

		Homework - https://app.senecalearning.com/dashboard/class/f2bj3q2gu6/assignments/assignment/79fae583-fb59-4654-bda4-b0aab0a15eef?suggestedProvider=microsoft
11EN2	Miss Hunter	Monday 14th September Language Paper 1 – Section A Tuesday 14th September Language Paper 1 – Section A Wednesday 15th September Literature Paper 1 – Romeo and Juliet Thursday 16th September Literature Paper 1 – Romeo and Juliet Homework: Complete any written tasks that were unfinished in lessons.
11EN3	Mrs Ali	
11EN4	Miss Mohamed & Mr Edwards	Monday 14th September 2026 (Miss Mohamed) Language Paper 1 – Section A. Tuesday 15th September (Mr Edwards) Romeo and Juliet – theme of Fate Wednesday 16th September (Mr Edwards) Romeo and Juliet – old and young Wednesday 16th September 2026 (Miss Mohamed) Language Paper 1 – Section A. Thursday 17th September (Mr Edwards) Romeo and Juliet – religion and family Homework Seneca revision
11EN5	Mrs Dhansey Ms Sadique	Monday 14th September 2026 (NBD) Complete all tasks and activities on 'Romeo and Juliet'. Thursday 17th September 2026 (NBD) Complete all tasks and activities on 'Romeo and Juliet'. Friday 18th September 2026 (NBD) Complete all tasks and activities on 'Romeo and Juliet'.
11EN6	Mrs Jagpal and Miss Hunter	Tuesday 15th September (Miss Hunter) Language Paper 1 – Section A Thursday 17th September (Miss Hunter) Language Paper 1 – Section A Friday 18th September (Miss Hunter) Language Paper 1 – Section A Homework: Complete any written tasks that were unfinished in lessons.
11EN7	Miss Shami & Miss Ali	Monday 14th September 2026

		Literature Paper 1 – Section A Thursday 17th September 2026 Literature Paper 1 – Section A Friday 18th September 2026 Literature Paper 1 – Section A
11EN8	Miss Mohamed & Mr Edwards	Monday 14th September (Mr Edwards) Romeo and Juliet – theme of Fate Tuesday 15th September (Mr Edwards) Romeo and Juliet – old and young Thursday 17th September (Mr Edwards) Romeo and Juliet – religion and family Thursday 17th September 2026 (Miss Mohamed) Language Paper 1 – Section A. Friday 18th September 2026 (Miss Mohamed) Language Paper 1 – Section A. Homework Seneca revision

6 th Form		
Head of Department: Mr G. Edwards g.edwards@holte.bham.sch.uk		
What is your child learning this term?		
This half term, pupils in year 12 will begin to study the three separate units for English A Level Language and Literature. In Unit 1 they will begin to focus on spoken language and genre conventions. In Unit 2, two of the set texts will be introduced (The Great Gatsby and Othello) with a focus on plot, characters, and context). In year 13, pupils will begin to look at critical interpretations of the set texts: The Great Gatsby and Othello. They will also continue to write first drafts of their coursework folder, and revise for the mock exams in October and November.		
Class	Teacher	Lessons, including homework deadlines & resources
12AEN1	Mr Edwards & Mr Harrison	Monday 14th September (Mr Harrison) Animal farm completion and links to political ideologies Tuesday 15th September (Mr Edwards) Othello plot summary Tuesday 15th September (Mr Harrison)

		Accessing the news Thursday 17th September (Mr Edwards) Othello Act 1 analysis
13AEN1	Mr Edwards & Ms Sadique	Friday 18th September (Mr Edwards) Critical interpretations - Race in Othello