

Learning Guide for Students and Parents

Design Technology



w.c 7th 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 <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>
- GCSE Pod [Access GCSEPod | Support for teachers, students and parents](#)

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: Mrs Thomas – v.thomas@holte.bham.sch.uk		
What is your child learning this term?		
This term pupils will complete 1 of 2 modules either Food or Textiles module. Textiles will enable them to develop their technical drawing skills and understanding of how a product is designed and made. Throughout the unit pupils will learn to communicate ideas visually and make a textiles product. The other unit food studies where pupils will learn all about food safety, nutrients and where food comes from, food choices, food science and completing food practical tasks. Which ever your child has not completed this term they will complete after February half term. ALL WORK SHOULD BE EMAILED TO YOUR TEACHER BY 3PM ON FRIDAY All resources can be found in their Technology teams channel.		
Class	Teacher	Lessons, including homework deadlines & resources
A	Mrs Chowdhury	Kitchen Safety
E	Mr Allen	
I	Miss Chikte	What is sustainability? Properties of materials
O	Miss Chikte / Mr Allen	Food safety/ knife and kitchen equipment safety
U	Mr Allen / Mrs Chowdhury	What is Textiles, types of textile
D	Mr Allen / Miss Chikte	What is sustainability? Properties of materials
T	Miss Chikte	Food safety/ knife and kitchen equipment safety
C	Mr Allen	What is Textiles, types of textile
7N	Miss Chikte / Mr Allen	Food safety/ knife and kitchen equipment safety

Year 8		
Head of Department: Mrs Thomas – v.thomas@holte.bham.sch.uk		
What is your child learning this term?		
This term pupils will complete 1 of 2 modules either Food or Textiles module. Textiles will enable them to develop their technical drawing skills and understanding of how a product is designed and made. Throughout the unit pupils will learn to communicate ideas visually and make a textiles product. The other unit food studies where pupils will learn all about food safety, nutrients and where food comes from, food choices, food science and completing food practical tasks. Which ever your child has not completed this term they will complete after February half term. ALL WORK SHOULD BE EMAILED TO YOUR TEACHER BY 3PM ON FRIDAY All resources can be found in their Technology teams channel.		
Class	Teacher	Lessons, including homework deadlines & resources
A	Mrs Chowdhury	Temporarily learning Art with MJD
E	Miss Chikte/Mrs Chowdhury	Food safety
I	Mr Allen	Workshop safety, use of workshop equipment
O	Mr Allen / Miss Chikte	Food safety
U	Mrs Chowdhury	Kitchen Safety
D	Mr Allen	Workshop safety, use of workshop equipment
T	Miss Chikte	Materials

C	Mr Allen	Workshop safety, use of workshop equipment
8N	Mr Allen / Miss Chikte	Workshop safety, use of workshop equipment

Year 9		
Head of Department: Mrs Thomas – v.thomas@holte.bham.sch.uk		
What is your child learning this term?		
This term pupils will complete 1 of 2 modules either Food or Textiles module. Textiles will enable them to develop their technical drawing skills and understanding of how a product is designed and made. Throughout the unit pupils will learn to communicate ideas visually and make a textiles product. The other unit food studies where pupils will learn all about food safety, nutrients and where food comes from, food choices, food science and completing food practical tasks. Which ever your child has not completed this term they will complete after February half term. ALL WORK SHOULD BE EMAILED TO YOUR TEACHER BY 3PM ON FRIDAY All resources can be found in their Technology teams channel.		
Class	Teacher	Lessons, including deadlines & resources
A		
E	Mr Allen	Design eras- evaluating 4 design styles – Art nouveau, art deco, pop art, memphis
I	Mr Allen / Miss Chikte	Design eras- evaluating 4 design styles – Art nouveau, art deco, pop art, memphis
O	Miss Chikte	Food safety
U	Miss Chikte	Food safety
D	Miss Chikte	Food safety
T	Miss Chikte	Food safety

Year 10 Food		
Head of Department: Mrs Thomas – v.thomas@holte.bham.sch.uk		
What is your child learning this term?		
Pupils will be working on both exam and coursework content. The units are designed to enable students to develop basic culinary skills as well as developing an understanding of considerations that need to be implemented when planning a meal. This will enable pupils to build confidence when working in the kitchen to design, prepare and make a range of well-balanced food products using basic catering equipment in a safe and hygienic way. They will also be developing their understanding of the hospitality and catering industry which will include learning about the health and safety requirements that should be followed by employers and employees. ALL WORK SHOULD BE EMAILED TO YOUR TEACHER BY 3PM ON FRIDAY		
Class	Teacher	Lessons, including homework deadlines & resources
10.1	Mrs Chowdhury	Commercial Non-Residential Providers

Year 10 Technology		
Head of Department: Mrs Thomas – v.thomas@holte.bham.sch.uk		
What is your child learning this term?		
They will be developing skills knowledge and understanding of the assessed elements of the GCSE. They will cover a variety of topics such as the work of other designers, sustainability, energy and mechanisms, tools, equipment and processes, new and emerging technologies. They will learn about these topics whilst completing a series of mini projects aimed at preparing them to start their final NEA in July 2027. ALL WORK SHOULD BE EMAILED TO YOUR TEACHER BY 3PM ON FRIDAY		

Class	Teacher	Lessons, including homework deadlines & resources
10.1	Mr Allen	NEA skills- marking out, accuracy and tolerance Manufactured boards and timber

Year 11 - Food		
Head of Department: Mrs Thomas – v.thomas@holte.bham.sch.uk		
What is your child learning this term?		
Pupils will be working on both exam and coursework content. The units are designed to enable students to develop basic culinary skills as well as developing an understanding of considerations that need to be implemented when planning a meal. This will enable pupils to build confidence when working in the kitchen to design, prepare and make a range of well-balanced food products using basic catering equipment in a safe and hygienic way. They will also be developing their understanding of the hospitality and catering industry which will include learning about the health and safety requirements that should be followed by employers and employees. ALL WORK SHOULD BE EMAILED TO YOUR TEACHER BY 3PM ON FRIDAY		
Class	Teacher	Lessons, including homework deadlines & resources
11.1	Miss Chikte	Unit 2 mock coursework

Year 11 - Technology		
Head of Department: Mrs Thomas – v.thomas@holte.bham.sch.uk		
What is your child learning this term?		
They will be developing skills knowledge and understanding of the assessed elements of the GCSE. They will cover a variety of topics such as the work of other designers, sustainability, energy and mechanisms, tools, equipment and processes, new and emerging technologies. They will learn about these topics whilst completing their NEA. ALL WORK SHOULD BE EMAILED TO YOUR TEACHER BY 3PM ON FRIDAY		
Class	Teacher	Lessons, including homework deadlines & resources
11.1	Mr Allen	NEA coursework, specification design brief, generating design ideas

Year 11 3D design		
Head of Department: Mrs Thomas – v.thomas@holte.bham.sch.uk		
What is your child learning this term?		
They will be developing skills knowledge and understanding of the assessed elements of the GCSE. They will cover a variety of topics such as the work of other designers, sustainability, tools, equipment and processes. They will learn about these topics whilst completing a series of mini projects aimed at preparing them to start their final NEA. ALL WORK SHOULD BE EMAILED TO YOUR TEACHER BY 3PM ON FRIDAY		
Class	Teacher	Lessons, including homework deadlines & resources
11.1	Mr Allen	NEA coursework, generating design ideas

6 th Form		
Head of Department: Mrs Thomas – v.thomas@holte.bham.sch.uk		
What is your child learning this term?		

Food Science and Nutrition:

Unit 3: Experimenting to solve food problems - The aim of this unit is for learners to use their understanding of the properties of food in order to plan and carry out experiments. The results of the experiments would be used to propose options to solve food production problems.

Class	Teacher	Lessons, including homework deadlines & resources
13A	Mrs Chowdhury	Functional Properties of Fats and Oils