**Current Homework Issues**

* Homework set is generally 'easy' so that all students attempt it and don't find it too difficult.
* Homework marking is adding to teacher workload and taking time away from more essential assessment marking and moderation.
* Homework that has been marked is sometimes added to go4schools current grade calculation (not good practice).
* Homework detentions are adding to teacher workload and are difficult with current commitment to break and lunch duties.
* Homework detentions are a focus on the negative and students do not improve meeting deadlines as a result. The time could be better spent with our PP and G&T students.
* Two different systems tracking homework detentions with no whole school approach to monitoring.
* Homework and homework detentions do not improve progress, outcomes or attitude to learning.

**The Solution**

PREPARE – ‘Prep’

**P**lan your time,

**R**e-read, Recite & Remember,

**E**ssential Facts, Figures & Formula, Essay Model Answers

**P**ractice Questions

**A**nswers & Mark Scheme

**R**eview & Reflect on your progress

**E**njoy your future success

1. Plan your time - look at all the resources available to you. Class work, worksheets, workbooks, web sites, videos, model answers, revision guide.

2. Re-read, recite & remember - read through key information, cover it up and recite it to yourself. If you can't remember, repeat.

3. Essential facts - write out the essential facts from memory and then check and correct.

4. Practice Questions - have a go at the practice questions.

5. Answers & Mark Scheme - check your answers against the Mark scheme and highlight the areas you need to improve.

6. Review & Reflect on your progress - What area do you need to go revisit? Did you understand where you went wrong? If you need extra help, see your teacher for guidance.

7. Enjoy your future success. The more preparation you do for each subject, assessment or exam, the more successful you will be. Enjoy the success that hard work brings you!

**Advantages to Prep**

* Students take more responsibility for their own learning and success.
* Encourages independent learning.
* Teaches students how to use their time to study effectively.
* Embeds an ethos of rigour and revision
* Once resources are made available it reduces teacher workload.
* No detentions, giving time for teachers to run interventions.
* No marking - the benefits are seen in assessment grades
* Even when work hasn't been set, students can self- quiz.

**Potential Challenges**

* All teachers need to push ‘prep’ in their lessons and make adequate materials available to students.
* Some teachers believe that the threat of detentions is the only reason students do homework, so removing it takes away their strategy.
* Initially, there will be a good deal of work to set up resources.
* Some students might overwork themselves and have negative impact on wellbeing.
* Students that aren't completing work may not be tracked or followed up.

**What can be done**

* After every progress report, the Team Leader looks at year group data and sends a letter to the parents of the poorest achievers. The letter will explain how the parent can help the student, how the student can help themselves and how the teacher/department can help. The letter will also give a clear explanation of prep.
* Interventions can be set by the teacher to help students with their prep to make it more effective in the future.
* If the work is important coursework or essay plan then the homework must be set as a ‘Master’ & ‘Enable Tracking’  - this will allow teachers to track if the work is completed and leave a record of missed deadlines. An intervention (not detention) can be set for those who has missed the deadline and need help to complete the work.
* Teachers can make a break, lunchtime or after school session available for prep drop-in if students need help with understanding.

**Communicating the Message**

* The school should have any clear wall space plastered with reminders and positive messages regarding prep.

P

R

E

P

A

R

E

P R E P A R E

**P**lan your time,

**R**e-read, Recite & Remember,

**E**ssential Facts, Figures & Formula

**P**ractice Questions

**A**nswers & Mark Scheme

**R**eview & Reflect on your progress

**E**njoy your FUTURE SUCCESS!



P R E P A R E

4

S U C C E S S



If You Want SUCCESS

You Must

P R E P A R E



E

R

A

P

E

R

P

DREAMS ARE ACHIEVED…

IF YOU

P R E P A R E





P

R

E

P

A

R

E



**Communication with Parents**

* Once introduced to students there should be some support for parents. A PREPARE booklet with be put together that will include information on the evidence behind it and helpful strategies to use at home.
* PREP Parental Workshops – Perhaps we could run half-termly PREP workshops for parents to improve the quality of support they provide to their children?
* Email communication – when students are consistently underachieving in assessments, Team Leaders will email an email template to parents regarding the importance of prep for success.

**Communication to Students**

* January assemblies will launch ‘PREP’ officially to students.
* Video on web site promoting the benefits of ‘Prep’.
* A ‘Prep’ section the website with individual videos and strategies to use.
* Teachings will put helpful documents on Go4Schools to help with new topics (to sit there for duration)

**Communication to Teachers**

* January INSET will launch ‘PREP’ officially.
* Many departments have already moved towards this way of working.
* Line Managers will check the quality of prep materials provided each half term for every year group.

**Measuring IMPACT**

* It will be a big change for our older students who are not used to the concept.
* There should be some improvement in progress and attainment, although it would be foolish to assume that any shift is solely down to Prep.
* Younger students should show the biggest impact and will be more independent when it comes to examination years.
* We should see free periods in the sixth form being used more productively.
* Teachers will be able to spend more time on moving our ‘silent majority’ #moveyourdeckchair