

Teaching and Learning at EGA

Teaching and learning at EGA is outstanding. Our teachers are subject specialists and build excellent relationships with their classes. However, we are not complacent and have a strong culture of continually striving to improve and refine our teaching to best support our students to achieve outstanding results.

Students learn in classes set by achievement in Maths from Year 7. In English, a mixture of setting and mixed achievement groups are used from Year 7 and in Science from Year 8. Other subjects are taught in mixed achievement groups. Challenge is one of our core teaching principles and, regardless of prior attainment and starting points, your child will be challenged academically in every subject.

Homework and Independent Study

We believe regular, habitual independent learning is an essential ingredient of success. We expect teachers to set high quality homework that supports students' learning, and we expect our students to complete homework to a high standard and in a timely fashion.

Students are set regular homework, but also expected to take increasing levels of responsibility for managing their own learning outside school. Expectations will increase steadily each year. Parents can see what homework has been set by logging on as a Guardian in Google Classroom.

Online Learning

We encourage all of our students to use a range of digital learning tools. Many departments use online teaching resources. These include:

- Maths Watch and My Maths;
- Educake (Science, English and humanities);
- Vocab Express and Seneca (Languages);
- Kerboodle (online textbooks for a range of subjects).

We also use Google Classroom - a set of tools that allow students and teachers to communicate and collaborate effectively to enhance learning. Every student is given an EGA Google Account and this is often used to set/submit assignments, work collaboratively on projects, and store their work. All students buy a subsidised Chromebook when they join the school which they will use in lessons and at home.

Reading

Students must learn to read fluently with enjoyment and confidence if they are to make progress in their education, in their career and in life in general. The demands of the latest GCSE specifications require students to have high reading ages. We test students' reading ages on arrival in Year 7 and at regular intervals to check whether their reading age is progressing in line with their actual age.

What we do to promote reading:

- Fortnightly library lessons to monitor students' reading at home;
- The library is open throughout the week, before school, at break and lunch, and after school. Our librarian organises visiting writer workshops and reading groups;
- Reading interventions for students identified as needing extra support;
- Ensure all teachers are aware of students' reading ages, explicitly teaching key subject vocabulary and modelling appropriate reading strategies.