



# Chertsey High School

## Student 10

Developing and Supporting Independence

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tutor Group: \_\_\_\_\_



The **Chertsey High School Student 10** and this supporting booklet are designed to help you build and increase your levels of independence.

The Student 10 is designed to help you take responsibility for your own learning and progress. It reflects our school ethos of **knowledge, determination and love** and encourages you to develop responsibility for your own progress and achievement and within our school community. The school community extends to the way to and from school, at break times and on social media.

Each half term, using this booklet and supported by your Form Tutor and Head of Year, you will focus on one or two areas of the Student 10. You will complete tasks related to the 10 focus areas and you will need to provide supporting evidence of what you have done. You can win house points and other termly awards as rewards.

The evidence you collect needs to be signed off by either the Subject Leader Teacher, your Head of Year or a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Sign here to show you have read the above information:

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# Chertsey High School Student 10

1	Know which key skills are needed to complete different tasks
2	Ask and answer questions regularly
3	Further develop subject knowledge
4	Think of new and different ways to absorb and retain information
5	Learn to work independently and with others
6	Self-evaluate your own work
7	Manage your own learning behaviour
8	Use time wisely
9	Understand what helps you learn most effectively
10	Become a resilient learner

Welcome to the first focus area! It's really important that you understand which key skills you need to develop in each subject.

Here are suggestions as to how you can ensure you know the key skills and **knowledge** you need:

- Make a list of green, amber and red subjects. Green = I know which key skills I need, Amber = I think I know some, Red = I am not sure.
- Then use this list to have 'learning conversations' with your teachers – prioritise red and amber subjects. You can also discuss what learning and teaching styles work for you.
- Ensure you understand how the subjects and topics are assessed. How will you be successful?
- Review your own progress and reflect on your learning behaviour and attitude. How can YOU improve in each subject – you could write a list of two targets for each subject and ask your tutor to help you monitor your progress in achieving them.

Task	Evidence	Signed

This focus area is about helping you to become more confident in asking questions about what you are learning. A teacher can only help if you allow that to happen. Ask questions in and out of class.

There is never a senseless 'work-related question'. If you are thinking it, the chances are someone else is too!

Here are some suggestions as to how you could gain **knowledge** in your subjects:

- Set yourself targets for specific lessons e.g. Target: to ask a least two good questions this lesson.
- Make use of school email to ask your teacher questions about the topics you are studying.
- Talk to your parents or siblings about your learning. Get them to ask you questions about a certain topic or explain something that you have learnt to them.

Task	Evidence	Signed

3	Further develop subject knowledge
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For the third focus area, you should choose at least one of the subjects you study at school. You could choose a subject you feel you are struggling in, and therefore need to do some extra work for, or one that you would like to become an expert in!

Here are some suggestions as to how you could gain **knowledge** in this subject:

- Make use of the available resources (Z8 during lunchtimes, homework club after school) to study books and the internet in order to develop your knowledge further in your chosen topic.
- Make use of online learning tools in regard to your chosen subject e.g. GCSE Bitesize, or subject specific websites (ask your class teacher to recommend these).
- Go over class notes at home to consolidate your knowledge, then record your work in an imaginative way.

Task	Evidence	Signed

This focus area, is about developing your revision skills. Revision skills are important to help you remember information for texts and exams but also to help you consolidate topics you study in lessons so that you can remember and apply them in the future.

Here are some suggestions as to how you could become a more **determined** learner:

- Make links between your current learning, your past learning and between subject areas (e.g. link your learning in DT to Science or your learning in English to Drama).
- Make use of different tools and strategies to absorb and retain information – you could use some of the techniques the Life Skills Company taught you.
- Break down your study into manageable chunks – create a learning timetable with space for home work and independent study time
- Explore using different forms of note taking (Cornell, Visual or Nuclear)

Task	Evidence	Signed

Many job roles require you to be able to work independently as well as with colleagues. Working independently and with others at school will help you develop a mature attitude and deepen your learning.

Suggestions to help you become a **determined**, independent and collaborative learner are:

- Be resilient when working independently. To struggle means you are out of your comfort zone, this is when you will make the most progress!
- Learn to work with all students and value different opinions. Debating a subject or topic will help you deepen and expand your knowledge. Choose a peer from one of your classes and debate a topic with them during your lunchbreak or after school.
- Actively seek to set yourself group or independent projects that will further develop your knowledge. Conduct an independent project with a friend or set up a WhatsApp group where you can all contribute to and debate a topic.

Task	Evidence	Signed

It's important that you are able to evaluate your own work effectively.

Try the ideas below, or (even better!) come up with some of your own, and become **determined** in assessing and evaluating your own class, home and independent work:

- Always check your work before handing it in – have you used keywords and correct terminology? Are you happy with the structure? Is it your best presentation?
- Ask your peers to check your work in class, share ideas with them, then use their feedback to improve your work and develop your knowledge.
- Make use of learning objectives, command words and grading criteria to support your work. Have you checked your work against the success criteria? How would you grade it?
- Try marking your own work against the success criteria before handing it in. How could you improve it?

Task	Evidence	Signed

Your behaviour in class and around school impacts your own progress and that of others. It is important that you learn to self-manage and maintain a positive learning attitude. Once you are able to do this you will have a positive influence on others around you and set yourself up to achieve your full potential school.

Here are some suggestions that might help you demonstrate **love** for our CHS learning environment:

- Be honest with yourself; are you someone who needs to work on contributing more positively to the learning environment? Could you do something to help influence your peers who are struggling to achieve the correct learning behaviour?
- How many good notes or house points did you get this week? How many detentions or bad notes did you get this term? Write yourself weekly or termly targets and share them with your tutor - then set out and really strive to achieve them!

Task	Evidence	Signed

8	Use time wisely
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Your time at school will pass by more quickly than you think and it's important you maximise the time you have both in class and within the school environment. Every lesson is an opportunity for YOU to develop. That time is precious, do not waste it!

Here are some suggestions as how you can ensure you foster **love** for the time you have in school:

- Timetable your entire week. Build in homework, revision, hobbies and free time. This will help you develop skills that will prove very useful when you need to make yourself a revision timetable for your GCSE's.
- Plan essays and reports before writing them. Develop an essay planning strategy that works best for you. Show your teacher and ask them to mark your planning as well as your essay.
- Join a club that you have not been to before – this will help you make new friends and develop new skills.

Task	Evidence	Signed

As you progress through school you will need to revise more and more often. It's important you do this effectively in order to retain and build **knowledge**. Everyone is different and this focus area will help you to identify and understand what helps you to learn most effectively.

Here are some suggestions as to how you can gain **knowledge** about your own learning style:

- Investigate what type of learning methods work best for you – Visual, Auditory or Kinaesthetic. Not sure? Take the Learning Style Quiz at [www.whatismylearningstyle.com/learning-style-test-1](http://www.whatismylearningstyle.com/learning-style-test-1)
- Use feedback from your teacher (written and verbal) to action change and self-development.
- Talk about your learning experiences with both your teachers and parents.
- Explore different revision techniques to find out which have the biggest impact on your learning. Try using one you haven't used before.

Task	Evidence	Signed

10	Become a resilient learner
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Resilience is the key to becoming a successful and independent learner. You should not find everything you do at school easy, in fact to be challenged and 'get stuck' is a really good thing. It's when we get stuck and have to find a way to solve a problem (or even start again!) that we learn the most.

Here are some suggestions as to how you can develop a **determined** resilience towards your study:

- Ask your teacher if you can re-do a test that you would like to do better in. Set the time of the resit and use this as your deadline. Work really hard to achieve a better result and try it again!
- List your three least favourite subjects or topics. Choose one and designate extra time to it. Go to the lesson thinking 'this is going to be a great lesson today!', spend extra time on a piece of homework, do some further research into the bit you find difficult, meet with your teacher and listen to what they say you need to do to improve. This will help to improve your confidence and will no doubt have good results!

Task	Evidence	Signed





