



**Developing  
Independent Study Skills  
for Sixth Form**

# Studying in Lockdown

The current situation with us staying at home due to Coronavirus and the cancellation of GCSE examinations is challenging and strange.

However, it is a time in which you can put some time into preparing yourselves for the subjects you would like to study in Sixth Form.

# Bridging Work

The teachers at OLCC have prepared a package of work for you to study in your chosen options over the next few months. This will not only help to prepare you for work in September but it will give you an idea of what that subject covers and whether it is what you want to study.

Remember you can still change your options right up until the end of September.

# Independent Study Skills

You will have to work independently on these tasks at home. This will be difficult for you but will help you develop the independent study skills you will need in Sixth Form.

The rest of this presentation has some ideas for you to think about which might help you become better at working on your own and in school when we return.

# Organising your work space

1. Get the environment right
2. Tidy up between tasks
3. Have a clear filing system
4. Avoid dumping grounds
5. Keep things in one place
6. Make sure folders are clearly labelled.

# Getting more from your day

1. Use 'to do' lists
2. First things first
3. Estimate how long tasks will take
4. Build in slack time
5. Use a master 'to do' list
6. Be ready for down times

# Improving your concentration

1. Convince yourself of the benefits
2. Break and rest
3. Use your prime times wisely
4. Write yourself reminders
5. Work actively
6. Avoid marathon sessions
7. Listen and learn

# Time management

1. Find what suits you
2. Be clear about what's involved
3. Think Long term
4. Plan ahead
5. Work consistently
6. Do more than the set work
7. Review your work
8. Don't become a fanatic



# Tackling major assignments

1. Be clear about the task
2. Set your own deadlines
3. Set mini-deadlines
4. Use a deadline diary
5. Take small steps
6. Get the pace right
7. Organise resources
8. Allow slack time
9. Start with something quick and easy

# Increasing Motivation

1. Have high expectations
2. Find you personal benefit
3. Set goals for your courses
4. Take a real interest in your courses
5. Get regular feedback
6. Be competitive
7. Celebrate Success

# Getting down to Study

1. Make the most of study periods
2. Get into a routine
3. Go for excellence – not perfection
4. Try out the 10 minute rule
5. Do an easy task first
6. Do the worst task first
7. Remind yourself
8. Weigh things up
9. Get on with it

# Getting more from study periods

1. Beware interruptions and distractions
2. Tackle one task at a time
3. Set a target
4. Press on and finish
5. Plan your breaks
6. Reward yourself
7. End on a high note