

## Questioning to Support Homework



It can be hard to know how to support your child with their homework in secondary school, especially if you don't know much about the subject yourself. Below are some ideas of questions you might ask your child to help them consider what they have to do. These questions should work for any subject.

- 1) What does the homework entail and what do you have to do?
- 2) What do you need to know before you can start the homework?
- 3) What will you need i.e. resources to complete the homework?
- 4) Do you have a choice in how you can present the homework, e.g. power point presentation, oral, practical or written presentation?
- 5) Will it help to plan what you will do for this homework?
- 6) Do you need help to produce a plan?
- 7) Do you know how to start the homework?
- 8) What help might you need with reading or writing?
- 9) Can you think of anything else you might need help with?

When you have been through this process, hopefully your child will be feeling more confident about what it is they will do to complete the homework. If they are not sure how to answer the first three questions, you may be able to guide them to the answer or if you are unsure yourself you may need to contact your child's teacher to ask for further information and come back to the homework another day.

You can then plan with your child how you will provide support; it may be that your child will be able to ask for help if they need it. Alternatively, you might say you will check how they are getting on in 5 or 10 minutes.

Ideally your child should be doing at least some parts of the homework independently. If the homework is too difficult for them to complete independently, then it may be time to schedule an appointment with your child's form tutor.