



# South Dartmoor Community College

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*Empowering everyone to be the best they can be.*



23 April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 7 and Year 8 students,

I am writing to share an update on Home Learning in Year 7 and Year 8 and to invite your views as we continue to develop this together.

Our current Home Learning approach helps students build good habits, confidence and independence without adding undue pressure at home. Home Learning is manageable, purposeful and closely linked to classwork. It is set in English, Maths and Science and focuses on consolidation, reading and retrieval.

The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) notes that homework has a positive impact on average (around +5 months' additional progress), particularly for pupils in secondary schools.

This model has worked well so far: over 94.6% of students complete all Home Learning each week and to an exceptional standard.

We also want students to have a healthy balance between schoolwork, extra-curricular activities, hobbies, family time and rest. Evenings and weekends are often busy, so we aim for Home Learning that fits realistically around these commitments while building sustainable independent learning habits.

As part of our ongoing review, we are considering introducing Home Learning in additional subjects (for example, modern foreign languages, history and geography) later in Year 7 / Year 8 to prepare for Year 8 / Year 9. Before making any changes, we would value your feedback on:

- how current Home Learning is working for your child
- how much time Home Learning takes alongside other commitments
- your views on extending Home Learning into additional subjects.

Parents and carers are key partners in students' learning and wellbeing. Your feedback will help us strike the right balance between academic progress and time to relax and pursue interests.

Please take a few minutes to complete the short feedback form below. Your responses will help shape our next steps. The deadline for responses is Thursday 30 April 2026

[Home Learning Feedback Survey](#)

Thank you for your continued support and for helping us get this right for our students.  
Best wishes,

Mrs Emma Gallagher

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