



### Hoe Valley Sixth Form

Dear student,

Over the summer we want you to complete the following tasks below to help you make a successful transition from GCSE to Sixth Form study. Our summer transition work includes the following 3 elements to help you feel like a pro when your sixth form journey begins!

## Preparation

Below are some tasks that will help to introduce you to knowledge required for the start of the course or to consolidate key GCSE level material.

Read some of the books below or find your own information around the topics that will be delivered.

Have a go at writing some notes:

1. Use note-taking templates to help organise information and maintain consistency - Cornell notes is a fantastic one.
2. Make constant decisions about the information to write. Doing this makes sure your brain is trained into efficiency. Don't write a sentence if a phrase will suffice. Don't jot down a phrase if a keyword is enough!
3. You are not writing notes to try to learn things on the spot. They are for you to learn or utilise later. Do whatever it takes – diagrams, doodles or colour coding to help you make sense of the topic later.

Whilst doing this, try to Pomodoro Method:

1. Decide the specific task you are going to complete (e.g. I will read a chapter of a book or look at journal articles online and make notes).
2. Set up your study area
3. Decide on how many 25-minute slots you will need to complete the task you have decided to complete.
4. Remove your phone and any other distractions from your working space.
5. Set a timer for 25 minutes. Ideally use a digital timer which is not on your phone.
6. Spend the entire 25 minutes working. If you have spare time at the end, start another task.
7. When the timer goes off, leave your working area and take a 5-minute break.
8. Repeat. Take a longer break after every 3 25-minute sessions.

## Reading

Below is some essential reading material or some titles that will help you to read around your subject and develop a deeper understanding of the subject, a crucial skill for success in the Sixth Form.

The Glorious Revolution by Edward Vallance

The English Civil War: A People's History by Diane Purkiss

The Russian Revolution: A New History by Sean McMeekin

Nicholas II: Twilight of the Empire by Dominic Lieven

Witchcraze: New History of the European Witch Hunts: New History of the European Witch Hunts by Anne Llewellyn Barstow

England's Witchcraft Trials by Willow Winsham

Useful Websites:

[https://getrevising.co.uk/resources/level/a\\_ib/subjects/history](https://getrevising.co.uk/resources/level/a_ib/subjects/history)

<https://schoolhistory.co.uk/past-papers/edexcel-a-level/>

## Organisation

Below are tasks to help you to be organised with your work when you start in September. You will be completing a huge amount of work and to be successful you must keep on top of everything!

1. Purchase two A4 ring binder folders and plastic wallets - this will be used for the two topics you will cover in Year 12.
2. Purchase an A4 lined paper notebook - this is for writing notes either in class or at home.
3. Purchase good pens (ones that don't run out quickly and are comfortable to write with) and highlighters - these will help you keep your notes organised and neat.
4. Get a copy of your timetable and stick it on the inside or outside of your folder and highlight the time of your lesson on the front. This means that you will only have glance at the front of your folder to know what lesson you need it for!