



The Astley Cooper School

Responsibility Respect Resilience

Dear Parent/Carer,

Introducing Our New Centralised Homework Programme

As part of our continued commitment to ensuring every student develops the knowledge and skills needed for success, we are pleased to introduce a new centralised homework programme for students in Years 7-9 from September.

Our new homework model has been designed to strengthen the foundational literacy and numeracy skills that underpin learning across every subject. Research consistently shows that students who regularly practise these core skills are better equipped to access the curriculum, become more confident learners and achieve stronger outcomes throughout their education.

Rather than each subject setting separate homework tasks, all Year 7-9 students will complete carefully selected activities through Seneca Learning. **Your child's homework will be set in form groups; they will receive one hour of literacy and one hour of numeracy homework on a weekly basis.** These activities will focus on essential knowledge and skills such as:

- Reading comprehension
- Vocabulary development
- Spelling and grammar
- Mathematical fluency and problem solving
- Retrieval practice to strengthen long-term memory

Please be aware that homework will start being set on this platform from Monday 21st September 2026.

By using one platform for homework, we aim to provide a consistent experience for students while making it easier for families to support learning at home.

Library Lessons

Students will be introduced to Seneca during their fortnightly library lessons at the beginning of the academic year. During these sessions, staff will:

- Show students how to access Seneca.
- Demonstrate how to complete homework assignments.
- Explain how to monitor their progress.
- Provide an opportunity for students to ask questions and become confident using the platform.

This means every student will receive guidance before homework is set independently.



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Accessing Seneca at Home

Astley Cooper School is a **Google school**, so students **do not need a separate Seneca username or password**.

To access Seneca:

1. Visit <https://app.senecalearning.com>.
2. Select **Sign in with Google**.
3. Sign in using your child's **Astley Cooper School Google account** (the same account they use to access Google Classroom and other school services).
4. Once logged in, any homework that has been assigned will appear automatically on their homepage.

Students can also download the **Seneca Learning** app on most smartphones and tablets and sign in using the same Google account.

Supporting Your Child

You can make a significant difference by encouraging your child to:

- Complete homework before the deadline.
- Work in a quiet environment with minimal distractions.
- Take their time and read questions carefully.
- Revisit completed activities to reinforce their learning.

Regular completion of homework will help students build strong habits of independent study while continually developing the literacy and numeracy skills that support success across the curriculum.

We are excited to launch this new approach and look forward to working in partnership with parents and carers to help every student flourish.

If you have any questions regarding the new homework programme, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Footman

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