VotesforSchools: Top Tips for Independent Learning

First of all, please don't worry. You are not alone and there are ways to get help. Here are some ideas to help and support you manage your learning.

What does "**independent learning**" mean? It's not doing **loads of work on your own**, is it?

Definitely not. Here's what it *really* means:
- ☑ **Thinking** for yourself
- ☑ **Planning** your work
- ☑ **Researching** independently
- ☑ **Reviewing** how things are going

With practice and time you will get better at all these things, which will be **empowering** and **help you with future learning and in life**. Here are some of the **skills** you will develop:

- ☑ **Responsibility**
- ☑ **Motivation**
- ☑ **Resilience**
- ☑ **Organisation**

So, see this as **a good opportunity to become a skilled independent learner**!

Our Top 10 Tips

- ☑ Look through all the work you have been set and **prioritise** (order your work in terms of importance, timing or what makes most sense).
- ☑ **Set goals** as this is a good way to keep motivated.
- ☑ **Create a plan or schedule** (e.g. a set amount of time for work each day, perhaps when it is quieter/easier to concentrate).
- ☑ **Think through** what you need to do, step by step.
- ☑ If you need to do research, then **consider the key questions** you need to find answers to.
- ☑ **Read instructions carefully** so that you are clear about what to do.
- ☑ **Don't give up;** keep trying and explore different options to suit your learning style.
- ☑ **Ask for help** if you need it and **offer help to others** if you can.
- ☑ If you are stuck for ideas, **discuss** with friends or others at home.
- ☑ **Be kind to yourself** by taking regular breaks, eating and sleeping well, and staying in touch with friends.

Got any other ideas? Be sure to share these with your friends & classmates!