

Our Ref: BD/JP

23 May 2011

Dear Parents, Guardians, Carers

### **Year 8 - Independent Study Challenge - "What's your passion....."**

I am writing to inform you of the Year 8 - Independent Study Challenge and to ask for your support in encouraging your child to take part in this learning based reward strategy.

The ability to undertake independent study is an important factor in defining exam success. The Independent Study Challenge is just one step we are taking towards promoting these skills in our students, helping to prepare them towards the demands of the Key Stage 4 Curriculum.

Along with this letter, your child has received an Independent Study Challenge Card with full instructions and a progress recording grid. The Challenge requires students to complete work projects at home, gaining verification for each piece of work completed by you, (the parent, guardian or carer). The students have the freedom to choose what each piece of work entails, but it must last at least 20 minutes and be relevant to school. They must provide some form of evidence of each piece of work they have done.

Divided into two options, Students can choose to enter either the **Sprowston Challenge** (6 pieces of work) or **the Mr Bidle Challenge** (10 pieces of work). The latter has been designed to target the 6+ students (i.e. those with a combined target level of 6L or higher), however any student can enter either challenge.

Any support that you or your extended family can offer towards encouraging your child to complete this challenge would be greatly appreciated.

#### **Examples of the type of work that could be done:**

- Reading a chapter from a book and making notes on what you have read.
- Using the BBC Bite Size website to research a subject that interests you.
- Listing the name of all the Premier Football Grounds and their Total capacity.
- Reading a news article about Pakistan and learning about its culture.
- Drawing, painting, making, doing, researching, revising, answering, exploring...

Yours faithfully



Darren Bidle  
**Head of Year 8**