

## PREP Interview

### **Do you think PREP is a good way to organise homework?**

Mr Gibson: "Yes, when you're in year 11, you have to do big projects for homework. This means PREP prepares you for this. It is also easier to manage for pupils as well as teachers."

Miss Slater: "Yes, it is for year 7 and 8, as homework for junior schools is very different. Therefore, it teaches you to meet a deadline and prepares you for your GCSEs."

### **How much time would you advise pupils to spend on PREP a week?**

Mr Gibson: "Around 30 to 60 minutes a week per task on each subject."

Miss Slater: "No more than an hour per task, per week."

### **What has been the best piece of PREP you've received this past school year?**

Mr Gibson: "Lawrence Cooper, in year 7, for PE. He added more than needed, and his answers were GCSE style. It was also presented neatly and in an organised way."

Miss Slater: "Annabel Derry, in year 8, whose work was beautifully presented; showing that a lot of time and effort had been spent on it. Also, Kieron Norris, in year 7, whose PREP was colourful and showed he had pride in his work."

### **How do you work out what the tasks should be?**

Mr Gibson: "Departments of that particular subject work out what the tasks should be, with input from the teachers."

Miss Slater: "The departments sit down and reflect on the skills the different years need to work on. In English, they have three aspects that the PREP projects focus on: Reading (comprehension); Presentation (speaking and listening) as well as writing."

### **Do you think that the PREP booklet helps student's schoolwork?**

Mr Gibson: "Yes. For PE, it helps students to understand that there is more to the subject than just running around. It makes them more aware of its importance."

Miss Slater: "Yes, as it focuses on one area that consistently comes up as a problem. It reinforces learning skills and highlights skills that students need to work on."

### **Do you think that PREP is improving?**

Mr Gibson: "The quality of students PREP is improving and I am impressed with the effort put in."

Miss Slater: "There is more focus on presentation and students are taking more time on their work."

### **Do you think the PREP homework benefits students more short term or long term?**

Miss Slater: "Both. In the short term, it helps students to pass their GCSE's and in the long term, it helps students to work at home and to use their skills in the 'outside world'."

### **Do you think that after doing PREP, students levels are going up?**

Miss Slater: in my opinion Years 7, 8 and 9 are doing better in exams than years 10 and 11 because years 10 and 11 haven't had PREP homework. PREP helps with independent work; researching and doing work at home."

### **Do you think it's better having PREP homework, than separate homework being set by all teachers?**

Miss Slater: "Yes, because of consistency and it's across the year."

By Holly Chatterton and Estela Ziuryte