

WS/RNM/YR7

4th October 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Your son or daughter will shortly be starting to have Purple Zone as a feature of every lesson. This will start in English, Maths and Science and after half term will be in every lesson they have.

The Purple Zone is an integral part of the work of all academies in The Gorse Academies Trust and Boston Spa Academy is no exception. We use Purple Zone to:

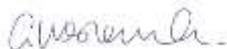
- Build resilience in students through independent study;
- Prepare students for linear examinations through the silent, sustained application of learning;
- Promote the engagement of students, via listening skills, in preparing for the Purple Zone;
- Allow students to demonstrate individual progress;
- Ensure students take responsibility for consolidating and extending their learning.

Purple Zone will take place every lesson. It will last at least 10 minutes and will be the most challenging part of the lesson. During Purple Zone students work in absolute silence and cannot ask for help. This is really important in developing the resilience and independence needed for the lengthy examinations they will sit at the end of Key Stage Four. Teachers will ensure that the Purple Zone tasks are challenging but accessible and will personalise these to ensure every child is suitable stretched and challenged. Teachers will plan carefully for Purple Zone and students always have opportunities to ask questions before they start. It is important that students listen carefully to instructions so that they have the knowledge and understanding to tackle the challenges they are set.

In practical lessons the Purple Zone rules are slightly different as silence isn't always possible or appropriate; the Purple Zone will still be a feature of every lesson and will involve students working independently or together on a challenging task without help from the teacher. Your child will need their own purple pen, these can be purchased from Student Services if they don't already have one. You will be able to see the Purple Zone tasks in your child's book as they are always written in purple pen.

I very much hope your child enjoys the challenge of Purple Zone.

Yours faithfully



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