



SIR THOMAS BOTELER

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

THROUGH GOD, WE CARE

GRAMMAR SCHOOL ROAD
LATCHFORD, WARRINGTON,
CHESHIRE, WA4 1JL

01925 636414

INFO@BOTELER.ORG.UK

WWW.BOTELER.ORG.UK

/THOMASBOTELER

CKI/CJO/ADMIN/ALLDEPTS/SLT/CKI/2425/SAM

11th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

To maintain our continued improvement, we have made homework and independent learning one of our priorities for the coming school year. During the summer term we trialed a range of homework platform providers and we have selected SAM learning as our platform. SAM learning is a multi-award winning online learning programme which supports students to improve their learning outcomes and has proved to be highly successful across many schools.

SAM learning will replace Satchel One and over the course of the next school week we will be showing students how to log on and use the system. SAM is proven to improve student outcomes and is used nationally across hundreds of schools. It will enable our students to not just complete their homework but also to explore and deepen learning independently, revise and self-test amongst other things. The platform is compatible with all devices including mobile phones.

Year 7, 8 and 9 students will be introduced to SAM learning in their next ICT lesson. Year 10 and 11 students will complete their introduction in an allocated Form period next week. This 'log-on' session for all students will be the only session where we will allow students to use their phones. Prior to this session phones, as always, need to be turned off and in bags. Likewise, straight after this session normal rules apply.

Log-in details for Parents and Carers are exactly the same as your child's log-in details as below. The SAM Learning homepage can be found at www.samlearning.com

User ID: your child's school email address

Password: your child's school email address

Centre ID: not needed if you are using your child's school email address

Once logged in passwords can be changed by the user for security purposes. All staff will have the ability to support students with a change of password, if required, to avoid any access issues. SAM is accessed by an online browser, not an app. However, once logged in, a shortcut can be made so the platform appears as an app on the students' mobile phones. Overleaf is an example of what the homepage will look like for your child so you can see how to navigate around the platform.

SAM provides a range of services in addition to the usual setting of homework by your child's teacher. Work is also set by Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) for your child each week in English Language, Maths, Biology, Chemistry and Physics, this builds knowledge at Key Stage 3 and focusses on essential learning fragilities at GCSE. The A.I. embedded in the programme will challenge and guide students to address their learning gaps automatically based on their previous responses.

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The more a student engages, the more accurate and responsive the programme is. Once logged in you will be able to explore the platform including weekly challenges, A.I. response and many learning resources.

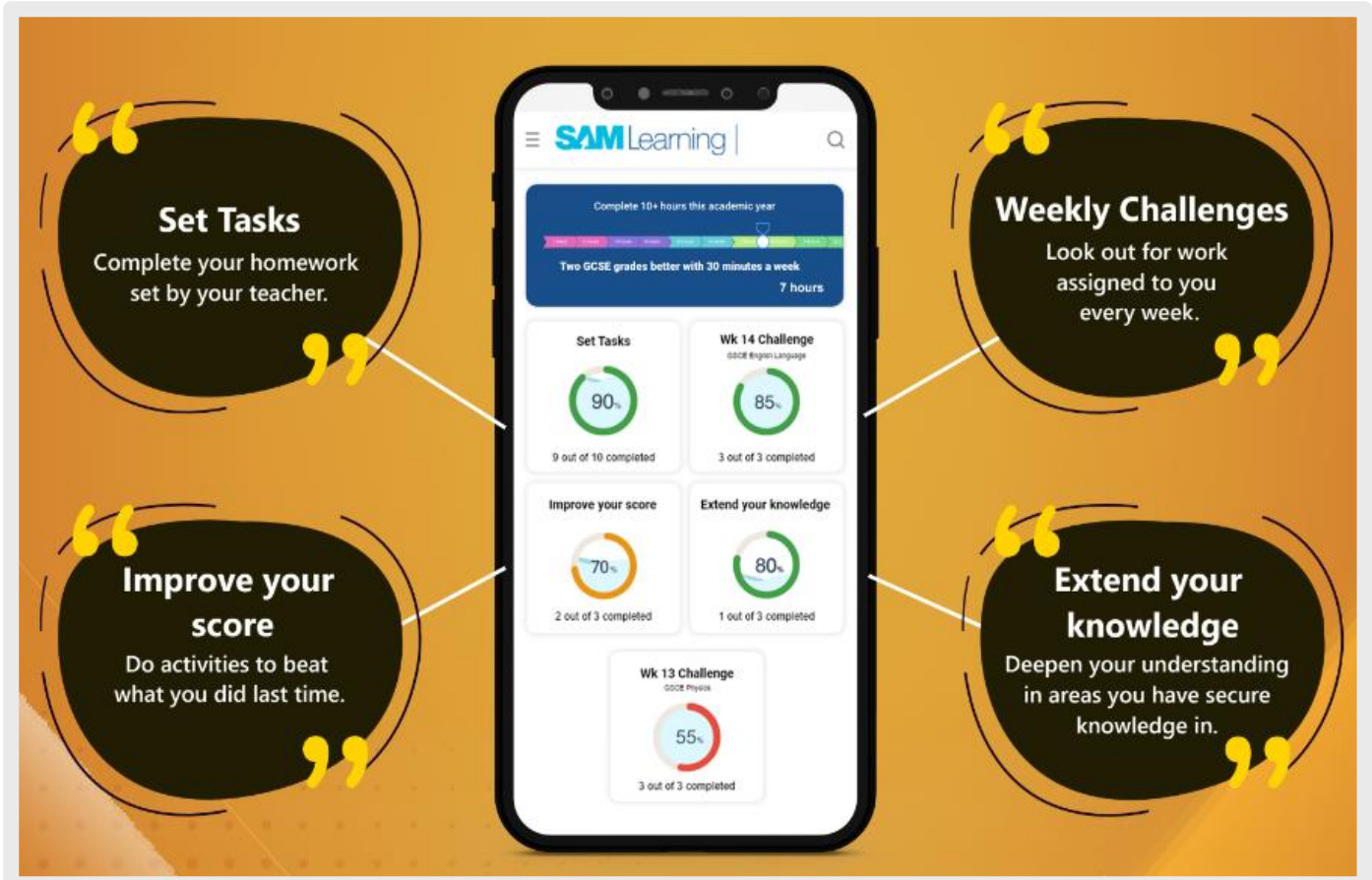
The activities additional to homework set by your class teacher are not compulsory but are encouraged to extend and deepen knowledge and also serve as an opportunity for students to test themselves and compete against their peers.

SAM learning is new to all users, including teachers. As and when we become more familiar with its potential we will share more information with you regarding how you as a parent/carer can engage with your child's learning. If you have any queries regarding SAM Learning which your child is unable to answer following their introduction sessions then please feel free to contact me ckinsey@boteler.org.uk.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. C. Kinsey
Senior Deputy Headteacher



The infographic features a central smartphone displaying the SAM Learning app interface. The app shows a progress bar for 'Complete 10+ hours this academic year' and a goal of 'Two GCSE grades better with 30 minutes a week' (7 hours). Below this are four main sections: 'Set Tasks' (90% completion, 9 out of 10 completed), 'Wk 14 Challenge' (85% completion, 3 out of 3 completed), 'Improve your score' (70% completion, 2 out of 3 completed), and 'Extend your knowledge' (80% completion, 1 out of 3 completed). At the bottom, there is a 'Wk 13 Challenge' (55% completion, 3 out of 3 completed). Surrounding the phone are four callout boxes with yellow quotation marks, each connected to a specific feature on the app screen by a white line.

- Set Tasks**
Complete your homework set by your teacher.
- Weekly Challenges**
Look out for work assigned to you every week.
- Improve your score**
Do activities to beat what you did last time.
- Extend your knowledge**
Deepen your understanding in areas you have secure knowledge in.