



HOMEWORK POLICY

Status	Current
Updated	24/09/23
Lead	Mr Thurley
Prepared by	SLT
Policy Status: Approved	
Review Date	September 2025

The Equality Act 2010 requires public bodies, in carrying out their functions, to have due regard to the need to:

- *Eliminate discrimination and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act*
- *Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it*
- *Foster good relations across all characteristics – between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.*

In the development of this policy due regard has been given to achieving these objectives.

At Beacon Academy, we believe that homework plays an important role in a student's education. Homework directly supports teaching and learning in the classroom and regular completion of homework supports excellent progress in all subject areas.

Research suggests that homework is most effective when it involves retrieval, practice and rehearsal of subject matter that has already been taught. Homework won't really expose students to new material rather work them through material covered in the previous learning times e.g. last week, last term or even last year!

We are aware that children have opportunities and experiences outside of school that are equally important in developing and enriching their lives. We will therefore choose carefully to make homework relevant and well-balanced across the school, whilst encouraging self-motivation and independent learning.

1. The aims of homework at Beacon Academy

The homework policy is in place to lay out where we provide opportunities:

- for independent work so that students can develop the skills, confidence and motivation to study effectively by themselves;
- to check that all students have understood their classwork over a period of time;
- to consolidate or extend work previously covered in lessons, by reinforcing skills and understanding (retrieval practice);
- to support the management of particular demands e.g. GCSE coursework;
- to support students' learning experiences via revision and reinforcement;

The homework policy is also in place:

- to ensure that teaching staff, parents and students are aware of their responsibilities with regard to homework;
- to clarify what students have to do in order to support parents;
- to sustain the involvement of parents/carers in the management of students' learning, and keep them informed of their child's work;
- to raise standards of progress and attainment.

2. Responsibilities

The role of the leadership team and Governing Body

- Check compliance with the policy;
- Monitor the policy through the quality assurance process;
- Review the policy and make appropriate updates as required;
- Ensure that new parents are informed about our expectations with regard to homework and are provided with system access where necessary.

The role of the Head of Department/Subject Lead and SENCO

- To ensure all subject staff know and understand the policy on homework through the lens of their subject area;
- Develop a departmental approach to homework that is tailored to suit the

- requirements of the subject and taught curriculum;
- Monitor the frequency, quality and completion rates of homework set in the department;
- Support with incomplete homework assignments, liaising with students and parents as necessary and to report persistent issues through the line management structure.

The role of the subject teacher

- To set homework in accordance with this policy in line with subject-specific requirements;
- Provide adequate explanations and support material to ensure all students understand what they have to do. This includes, but is not limited to, students with SEN;
- Clearly record homework according to school systems to ensure communication is provided for students and parents;
- Ensure all homework is purposeful, links directly to the curriculum and is commensurate with student's age and ability;
- Monitor homework completion through school systems and communicate with parents via the termly reports (homework grade) and where necessary by text/phone call if there are problems.

The role of parents/carers:

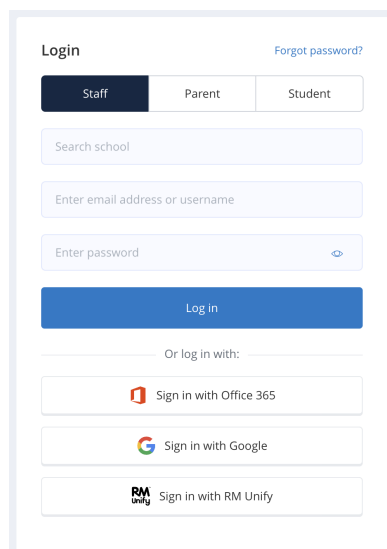
- Support their child in completing homework in accordance with this policy and direction on the school's homework systems;
- Ensure their child's homework is completed to a high standard;
- Provide suitable conditions and resources for their child to complete homework or inform the academy homework leadership link (Mr P Sunley) if such support is problematic;
- Inform subject teachers of any issues that may arise and cooperate with the school to find a solution.

The role of students:

- Take responsibility for learning and submit completed work in a timely manner;
- Make sure they understand the tasks and ask for help if needed. Ensure this help is requested in time for completion of the work in line with deadlines;
- To ensure work is completed in full, is their own work and is to a high standard.

3. Homework Procedures

Homework task instructions will be uploaded to Satchel One (Show My Homework):



<https://www.satchelone.com/login>

Both parents/carers and students will be able to log in from this page.

Search for Beacon Academy (Chatsworth Place) and sign in with a parent email and password or 'Sign in with Google' for student logins.

Task instructions will then direct students how to complete tasks. Tasks may be online or paper-based. It is at the discretion of the department what tasks are set, how and the submission processes.

Teachers will use Satchel One to record submissions and this can be tracked through the parent app. See Appendix 1 for instructions.

What sort of tasks will be set?

Subjects teach different skills, knowledge and ideas and this calls for a variety of approaches which will be left at the discretion of the class teacher.

Homework tasks could include (not exhaustive list):

- Answering questions;
- Writing or drafting essays and reports;
- Comprehension;
- Investigation and research;
- Reading;
- Designing/drawing/modelling;
- Revision;
- Memorising information e.g. vocabulary;
- Homework menu (students select a task each week).

A number of departments use 3rd party systems to deliver homework content. At Beacon Academy students may be required to use the following for homework:

- Sparx Maths
- Seneca History
- SAM Learning
- Language Nut

4. Homework Frequency and Recommended Time

Homework will be set and available to view on the following days:

There will inevitably be variation in the time it takes different students to complete work. However, as a guide, teachers expect that their homework tasks should be able to be completed to a good standard in approximately 30-40 minutes.

Key Stage 3 (Y7, Y8, Y9)

In maths, English, science, history, geography and Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) homework will be set on a **weekly basis** i.e. a minimum of one piece of homework per week, every week.

In all other academic subjects, homework will be set on a **fortnightly basis**.

In support of the development of literacy across the Academy, the English department also have an expectation that all Year 7, 8 and 9 should be reading a book for pleasure at home (either from school stock / public library / a book from home) for at least 1 hour a week.

Subject	KS3 Day Set	Frequency
Maths	Monday	Weekly
English	Monday	Weekly
Science	Monday	Weekly
History	Monday	Weekly
Geography	Monday	Weekly
MFL	Monday	Weekly
RS	Monday	Fortnightly
IT	Monday	Fortnightly
Art	Monday	Fortnightly
D&T	Monday	Fortnightly
Performing Arts (music/drama/ dance)	Monday	Fortnightly

Key Stage 4 (Y10, Y11)

Homework will be **set weekly** for all examination courses/subjects.

As students take less subjects for more time it is expected that homework pieces will take approximately 60 minutes to complete.

Key Stage 4 subjects may have more than one task that blends different return types. For example, a reading piece with comprehension questions or a paper-based task supplemented with an online test.

Subject	KS4 Day Set	Frequency
Maths	Monday	Weekly
English	Monday	Weekly
Science	Monday	Weekly
Options x 1 - geography, history or MFL	Monday	Weekly
Other Options x 3 - sport, D&T, HSC, art, photography, graphics, psychology, engineering, iMedia, dance, theatre craft, drama.	Monday	Weekly

5. Homework Minimum Standards

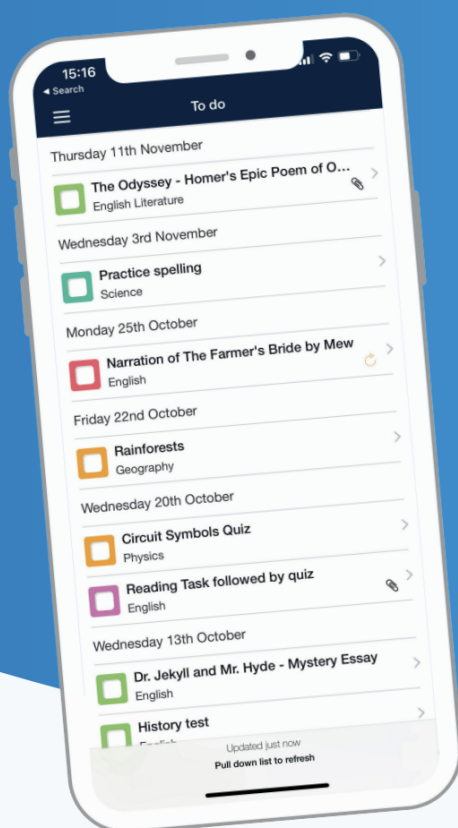
- Homework will be uploaded onto Satchel One by teachers on the days identified above.
- Students will usually be given no less than 48 hours to complete a homework task. Where possible it is expected that students will have 5 school days to complete homework tasks.
- Teachers will explicitly state on Satchel One how long to spend on a task and what to do.
- Teachers will explain how homework should be submitted and give instructions if 3rd party apps will be used to complete work e.g. Sparx Maths.

6. What happens if problems arise

- If students have difficulty with homework they can ask for some help from parents/carers or older brothers or sisters.
- If students are unclear about a homework task it is important they seek help and advice from their teacher as soon as possible. Students can also seek advice from their form tutor every morning. Form tutors can advise who to see in school to support students.
- If parents/carers have concerns about homework they can contact the academy at office@beaconacademy.co.uk with the Subject: *Homework Issues*.
- Texts are periodically sent to inform parents/carers of their child's non-completion of tasks.
- If the problem persists and students are either not completing homework satisfactorily or not handing it in on time, classroom interventions will be put in place to support the student in the completion of homework.
- Homework clubs are available to students who are having difficulty with completion.
- Homework grades are communicated on termly reports. This will reflect the efforts of homework over the course of a term.
- The academy recognises that there may be circumstances in which it is difficult to set homework (e.g. when the class teacher is unexpectedly absent), but in such circumstances every effort should be made to do so. In such circumstances the Subject Leaders may set work; students should be aware that the teacher setting work may not be their subject teacher.

Appendix 1

Homework on Satchel One!



To-do list

Keep track of tasks and mark them as completed

View homework

See all your homework details and deadlines on the go

Notifications

Know exactly when you have homework to hand in

satchel:
one



Access all of your homework via satchelone.com

or **Satchel One** app



satchel:

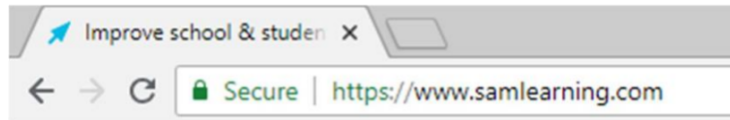


Appendix 2

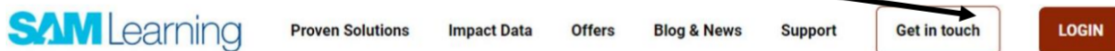


How do I log in to SAM Learning?

To access SAM Learning, use the link to navigate to www.samlearning.com using any Internet web browser – SAM Learning recommend Chrome.



Click **LOGIN** found in the top right corner of the screen



Enter your log in credential, which includes 3 pieces of information:

Centre ID - the Centre ID is a unique identifier assigned to each school to be used by learners, teachers, and administrators. The Centre ID has been provided to all students a reminder email will be sent to all students. Learners can also use the **Can't log in?** feature of the log-in portal. To use this feature, you must know the school's postcode.

User ID - a learner account is issued a user ID based on data provided to SAM. A learner's user ID for Beacon Academy is **their student email address**. This is their Google Suite account that includes email and Google Classroom login access. They must type this into the User ID box in full. The email address will end in **@beaconacademy.co.uk**

Password – a learner account password is made up of the **student date of birth and their initials**. For example, 210910JB is the password for Joe Bloggs with a birthday of 21/09/10. If any time the learner has forgotten their password, an administrator or teacher can reset it too. Please see Mr Sunley, Mr Mitchell or Mrs Pickles to have a password reset.

Appendix 3

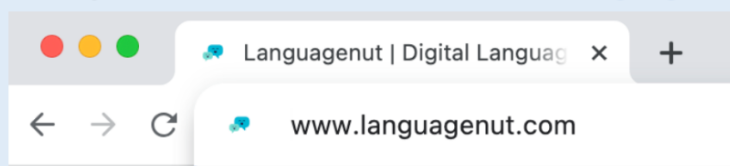
Languages Homework – Languagenut



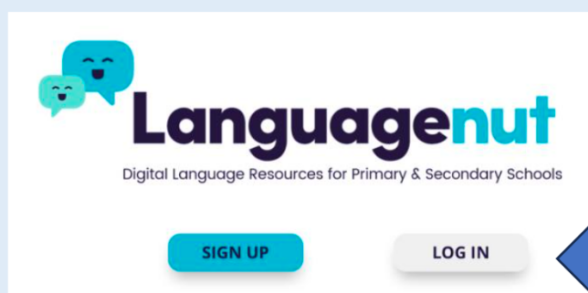
Assignments are set weekly on Languagenut.

Languagenut offers a range of speaking, listening, reading and writing activities including games to help students embed their knowledge of language covered in lessons.

1. Use any internet browser to access www.languagenut.com



2. Click 'Log in'



3. Enter student username and password

Students are given their usernames and passwords in class, and these are also available on Google Classroom and Show my homework.

Username

This is a student's First name and last initial. E.g. JoeB for Joe Bloggs

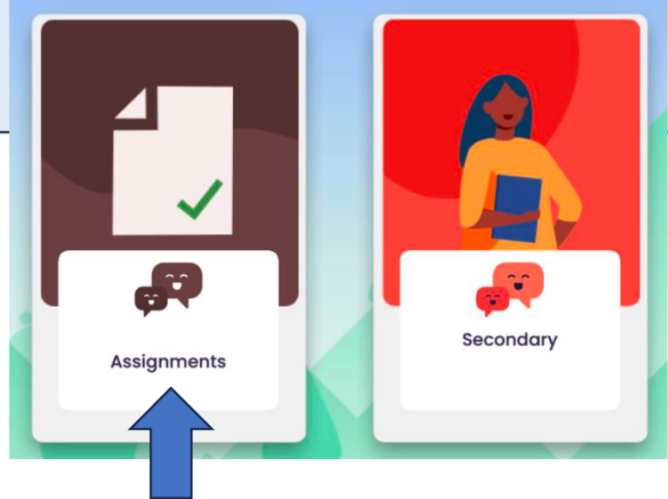
Password

This is usually a noun and some numbers e.g. autumn19846, bee18657

Please contact the school if you are not able to access student usernames and passwords.

Guidance continued on the next page

4. Click 'Assignments' to access homework tasks



An example of an assignment is included below. Students can see the due date and their score. Click on each blue line to access the task.

Assignments

9a/Fr3 Describing Character  [1. Vocab Trainer → Describing Character → Listening → Multiple Choice](#)

Due date: 13/10/23

"You can repeat this assignment to improve your score."





















[2. Vocab Trainer → Describing Character → Listening → Word Pop](#)







Learn → Practice → Quiz

Students should start with the **'Learn'** tab, by reading and listening to the vocabulary. Once students have done this, they can complete a **'Practice'** task which includes various games. Finally students need to take the **'Quiz'**, and upon completion the student will receive a score and bronze, silver or gold medal. Students can also earn rewards in class for consistent practice using Languagenut by climbing the class leaderboard.

9a/Fr3 Describing Character

[Printables](#) > **Learn** > [Practice](#) > [Quiz](#)

actif 	bavard 	gourmand 	marrant 	sportif 
active 	chatty 	greedy 	funny 	sporty 
sympa 	timide 	Je suis 	Tu es 	Il est 
nice 	shy 	I am 	You are 	He is 

Appendix 4



Dear parent/guardian,

We are delighted to announce that we have invested in Seneca Premium to support your child's education.

What is Seneca?

www.senecalearning.com is an online learning platform that has high-quality courses for all subjects at Key Stage 2, Key Stage 3, GCSE and A Level.

Your child will be able to log into Seneca on a phone, tablet or computer and study any of their school subjects. Seneca's Premium pass offers them access to:

- Over **1300 online courses** such as Hardest Questions, Predicted Papers, and HyperLearning.
- **Smart Learning Mode** using data & neuroscience to tell your child exactly what to learn and when to learn it.
- **Wrong Answer Mode** helps students learn as quickly as possible.

How should your child use Seneca Premium?

For your child to make the most of this fantastic resource, we recommend:

- Students should complete the homework set by their teachers on Seneca.
- Students should use all the different course types available on Seneca.
- Students should use Seneca little and often throughout the year rather than using it to cram in the weeks before their exams.

All student accounts have been set up with their school email addresses. Students have been told their passwords in school.

Parent accounts

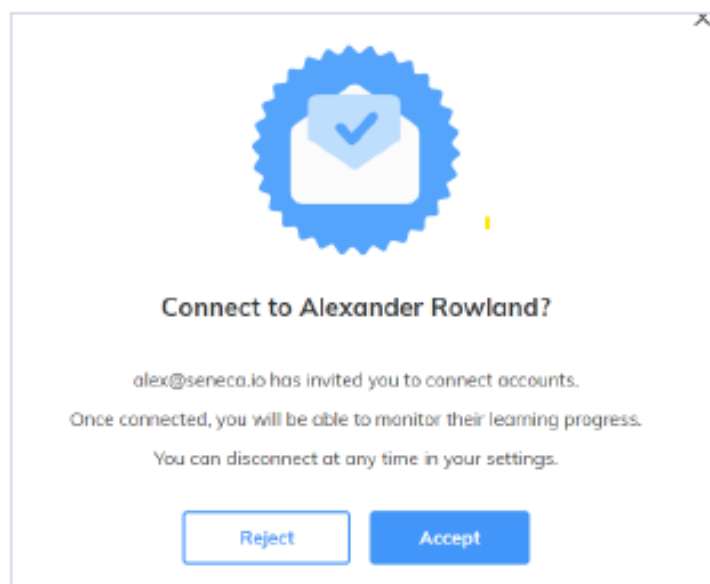
Seneca's free parent account allows you to track your child's learning or learn alongside your child. This can help make conversations about school and learning easier.

Just sign up for a free Seneca parent account here: app.senecalearning.com/parent
You will automatically connect to your child. If you are set up as a guardian in the school's MIS system.

A screenshot of the Seneca sign-up page. At the top, it says "Sign up" with a link "Try without signing up?". Below this are two buttons: "Continue with Google" and "Continue with Microsoft". A horizontal line with the word "or" in the center separates these from a large blue button labeled "Sign up with email". At the bottom, there is a line of text: "By signing up you agree to Seneca's Terms and Conditions" and a link: "Already have an account? Login".

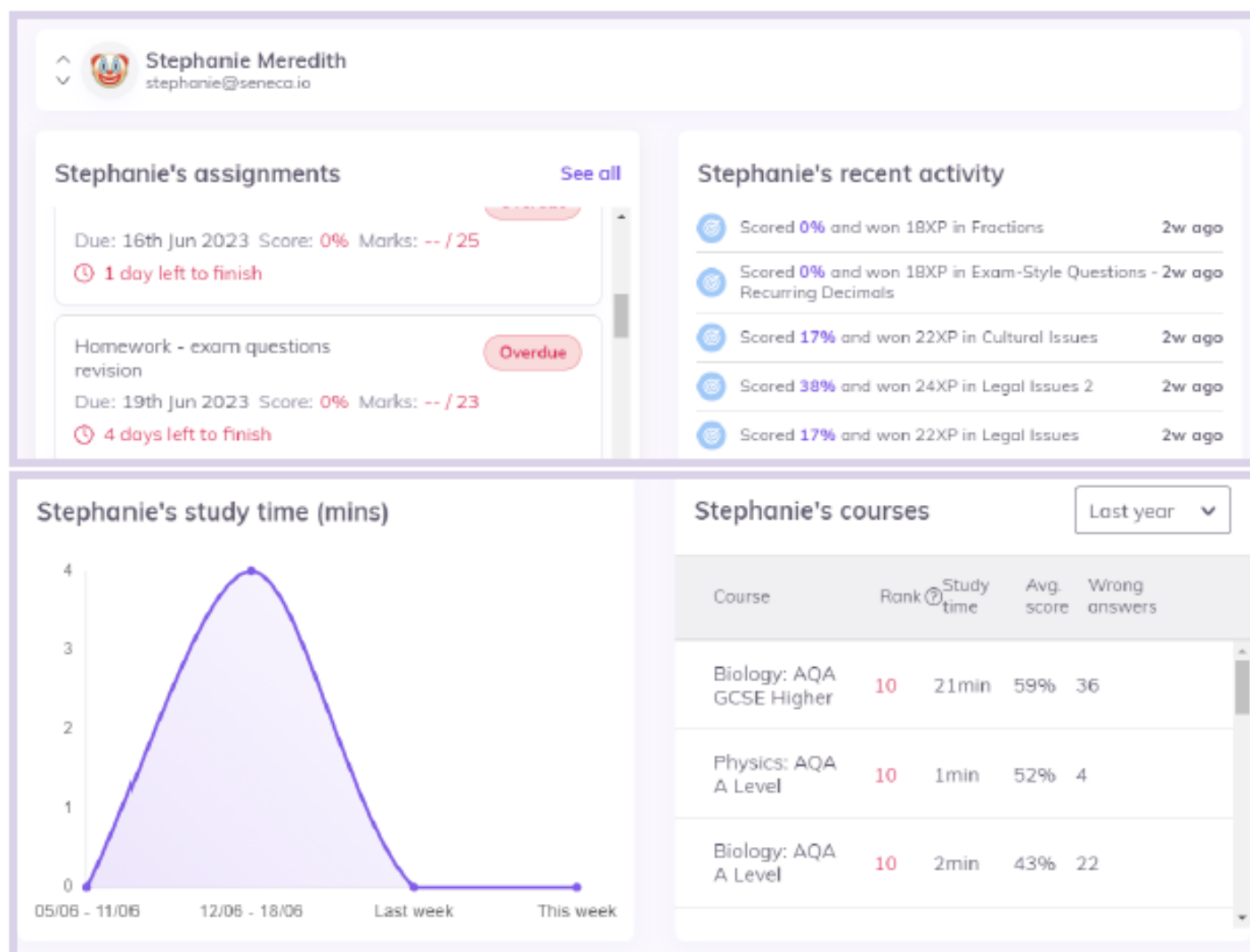


If you have any issues connecting with your child's account, please ask your child to invite you using your email address and you will receive a pop-up invite - Click accept.



The pop-up window features a blue envelope icon with a checkmark inside a gear-like border. Below the icon, the text reads: "Connect to Alexander Rowland?", "alex@seneca.io has invited you to connect accounts.", "Once connected, you will be able to monitor their learning progress.", and "You can disconnect at any time in your settings." At the bottom, there are two buttons: "Reject" and "Accept".

Here's what you can expect to see.



The dashboard for Stephanie Meredith (stephanie@seneca.io) is divided into several sections:

- Stephanie's assignments:** Lists two assignments. The first is due 16th Jun 2023 with a score of 0% and 1 day left to finish. The second is "Homework - exam questions revision" due 19th Jun 2023, marked as "Overdue" with 4 days left to finish.
- Stephanie's recent activity:** A list of recent achievements, including scoring 0% and winning 18XP in Fractions, Exam-Style Questions - Recurring Decimals, 17% and 22XP in Cultural Issues, 38% and 24XP in Legal Issues 2, and 17% and 22XP in Legal Issues.
- Stephanie's study time (mins):** A line graph showing study time over four periods: 05/06 - 11/06, 12/06 - 18/06, Last week, and This week. The highest study time is shown for the period 12/06 - 18/06, peaking at 4 minutes.
- Stephanie's courses:** A table showing course details for the last year.

Course	Rank	Study time	Avg. score	Wrong answers
Biology: AQA GCSE Higher	10	21min	59%	36
Physics: AQA A Level	10	1min	52%	4
Biology: AQA A Level	10	2min	43%	22

If you have any questions about how Seneca works, you can get support from the Seneca team using the live chat on their website or you can email them at learnmore@seneca.io.