

DAT 24/25 programme overview - Independent practice

Overarching big question: How do we build resilience in students to elevate their independent practice, in turn boosting the depth, quality and accuracy?

Meeting 1 - Wed 27th Nov 2024 In person	Meeting 2 - Wed 26th Feb 2025 Online (except Eng & Maths)	Meeting 3 - Wed 2nd July 2025 In person
What is effortful thinking and how do we breed good independent practice habits with students?	What does A* look like in my subject and how can independent practice push students towards it?	Each group has autonomy over the agenda. They will use meeting 2 to decide what discussion points they want to focus on during meeting 3. Facilitators will share the meeting 3 agenda with HEP following meeting 2.
Keynote (pre released on 20th November): How does effortful thinking link to cognitive science input from previous DAT programmes, what is it and what does it look like? What are the success criteria for setting up independent practice with your students? Final section to set the expectations of the 'model and rehearse' nature of the subject meeting that follows.	Keynote (pre released on 12th February): What differentiates an A* student from others in the class? How do we extend beyond the curriculum? Final section to set the expectations of the subject meeting that follows.	
Subject Meeting: Facilitator to have prepared an example of an independent practice task and model how they would set that up with students to the group first. Members of the group need to bring with them an example of an independent practice task. They will model and rehearse in front of each other how they set that task up with students. Using the success criteria and adding in any other ways they use to push students to think hard.	Subject Meeting: Incorporate A* answers and as a group write some A* answers. Use examiners, revisit the criteria and as a group do some analysis of what A* looks like. (Link to the sharing of A* scripts suggested in SLTL) Look at opportunities to extend beyond the curriculum, what resources can be shared/scrutinised during the meeting. Revisit the strategies from meeting 1 around building resilience when approaching these tasks.	

DAT Rationale:

DAT meetings were developed to begin with a very research driven stimulus at the start of each meeting; this providing their distinct difference to Subject Networks. 'Develop your A level teaching' by the nature of its title, has to have a CPD stand to it, developing all A level teachers from the least to the most experienced. The final meeting provides each subject group with autonomy over the agenda.

The working group agreed in person is more impactful, in turn ensuring more engagement and commitment to the session. As a trial for 24/25, all Maths and English DAT meetings will be in person (smaller groups are more impacted by on the day 'no shows'), those teachers nominated need to commit to attending in person.