

3-MONTH checklist



MIDDLE SCHOOL SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER TO-DOS

At Private Prep we use a team approach to support students in all aspects of learning. We've incorporated these in to a list of big to-dos so you and your child can get the year started on the right foot.

- ✓ Work with your child to create a homework routine - decide when and where they will do their work.
- ✓ Take time to show your student how to organize materials - determine how and where they will keep notes for each class.
- ✓ Notice when your child is making their best effort and praise the perseverance more than the outcome itself.
- ✓ Emphasize process oriented goals with your child rather than those with a narrow focus on outcomes.
- ✓ If your child is struggling with schoolwork or subject matter, have them ask for help, it's perfectly normal to do so.
- ✓ In the first month, check in on how your middle-schooler is getting along with teachers, especially in critical classes such as Math and English so you can address these challenges now. This can greatly affect your child's love of the subject and their ability to do well this year and beyond.
- ✓ Use October to determine if you need a tutor. It may seem early, but giving your child a second support throughout the year is more effective than emergency homework help or last-minute cramming.
- ✓ Remind your child to start organizing their class notes in preparation for midterms or exams. The beginning of school seems easy to organize, but this is the point where files start getting lost, papers jumbled, rooms disorganized, plans fraught.
- ✓ In high school your child will want to demonstrate achievement in extra-curriculars, so it is important to use middle school to explore interests and find out where their passions lie.
- ✓ *International Students*
It is important for your child to develop strong reading skills in English if it's their second language. Start developing these skills by reading and watching videos, reading articles and picking out new vocabulary words to learn in English.

The first months of school are important for setting a strong foundation for the year ahead. Contact us if have any questions or need guidance along the way.

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