



HOMWORK POLICY

Date reviewed	January 2021
Frequency	Annually
Next review date	October 2022
Reviewed by	Academic Standards, SEN and Educational Trips Committee

Signed:.....

Dated: 21.10.2021

Chair of Governors

Signed:.....

Dated: 21.10.2021

Principal

Homework has been extensively researched. There is a relatively consistent picture that pupils in schools which give more homework perform better. According to the Education Endowment Foundation, the impact of homework is, on average, five months' additional progress.

Aim

The aim of our homework policy is to encourage the continuation of learning at home as an essential part of a student's education. We believe that homework not only reinforces classroom learning, it also helps students to develop the skills, attitudes and understanding that they need to realise their full potential and to develop independent learning skills for the future, including the habits of enquiry and investigation. In addition, it should help to foster the role of parents and carers as co-educators of their children.

Homework enables pupils to:

- consolidate and reinforce the knowledge, understanding and skills developed at school (apply, research and consolidate);
- prepare for new learning activities, for example through additional reading;
- access resources not available in school;
- develop the skills, confidence and motivation needed to study independently;
- show progress and understanding;
- enhance their study skills e.g. planning, time management, self discipline, etc;
- manage particular demands, such as end-of-year assessments and GCSEs.

Expectations per key stage

Below is a guide to how much homework students should expect to receive per night:

Year	Approximate total time per day
Year 7	1 hour
Year 8	1 hour – 1 hour 30 minutes
Year 9	
Year 10	1 hour 30 minutes
Year 11	– 2 hours

Students in both key stages should not routinely be asked to do homework overnight as they may have co-curricular pursuits which make that impossible.

Key stage three

English, maths and science homework will be set weekly. All other subjects will either:

- set extended tasks or projects to be completed over a longer period of time up to, but not exceeding a half term.

Or

- set shorter and more frequent tasks which link directly to the sequence of learning in lessons.

Reading daily is an expectation.

Key stage four

All GCSE subjects will set weekly homework that will be approximately one hour in length. For success at GCSE, acting independently and undertaking further reading, revision and research will be important in both years 10 and 11.

Teachers are not expected to mark every piece of homework, nor are they always expected to set formal written tasks. The following list gives an indication of the range of tasks that might be set:

- Investigations and simple experiments;
- Research;
- Reading around a topic;
- Drawing and designing;
- Interviews and surveys;
- Essay writing or drafting reports;
- Exam practice questions;
- Making a model;
- Coursework.

Roles and responsibilities

Each student has a responsibility to:

- Access Show My Homework (Satchel One) daily;
- Ensure they understand the homework tasks, asking if they are unsure (in class, using SMHW comments boxes or using their school email account);
- Find a suitable place to study, well away from likely distractions (e.g. mobile phones);
- Demonstrate a commitment to spending an allocated time doing the tasks set;

- Complete homework tasks to the best of their ability within the appropriate length of time;
- Persevere with difficult tasks but having the confidence to stop when, with diligence, tasks become too time-consuming;
- Ask for help and support, but in advance of the deadline set so that work can be completed on time;
- Remember that reading daily is important;
- Get into the habit of doing homework daily and designate a regular homework time.
- Avoid academic cheating (plagiarism or allowing someone else to copy work and submit it as their own).

Parents have a responsibility to:

- Support the school's policy on homework;
- Make it clear that they value homework;
- Activate at least one parental account to encourage and monitor homework, review tasks set and records of completion on 'Show My Homework';
- Inform staff, including the Principal and Vice Principal, about any concerns relating to homework;
- Provide a suitable space for their child to work, away from distractions (as far as possible).

Each subject teacher has a responsibility to:

- Set homework that is in line with the homework policy;
- Record the submission of homework on Show My Homework;
- Set tasks that provide a suitable challenge, but are accessible to all;
- Set all homework on Show My Homework;
- Notify students in class when a homework task has been set on Show My Homework
- Make sure that all pupils know how to do the homework and clarify the purpose of the homework tasks;
- Allow **at least three school days** for the completion of homework tasks (i.e. homework set on a Friday should not be due in before Wednesday).

Heads of department have a responsibility to:

- Include suitable homework in the Schemes of Work which follow good practice;
- Monitor the implementation of homework by subject teachers;
- Support subject teachers in cases where the completion of homework is a persistent problem;
- Ensure that homework is regularly discussed so that good practice can be shared and developed across the department.

Heads of Year have a responsibility to:

- Monitor overall patterns of homework completion in their year group;
- Liaise with the relevant Heads of Department, subject teachers and SLT to ensure effective communication of issues;
- Support tutors and subject teachers to ensure conscientious recording and completion of homework.

Form tutors have a responsibility to:

- Ensure that the members of their tutor groups understand the homework expectations and reinforce the importance of homework. This is especially important for key stage 3;
- Ensure that all members of their tutor group know how to access Show My Homework;
- Monitor Show My Homework to identify students who are persistently not submitting homework and follow up with students and their parents accordingly;
- Be aware of any student's home circumstances that make the completion of homework difficult;
- Support students in their time management and organisation for homework.

The Senior Leadership Team have a responsibility to:

- Maintain an overview of homework in line management meetings, departmental reviews and tutor team meetings;
- Ensure that students and parents are regularly informed of their responsibilities regarding homework;
- Support the departments and pastoral teams with students who are having difficulties in completing their homework.
- Publish the email addresses of all teachers on the school website. These can be found in the 'Contact' tab on the school website.

The Show My Homework coordinator has a responsibility to:

- Ensure that all pupils, parents and staff have access to Show My Homework.

Sanctions

Teachers are expected to monitor the completion of homework by students. Those students who fail to complete tasks need to be sanctioned as follows:

1. Subject teacher sets a new deadline. Lack of submission is recorded on Show My Homework.
2. Subject teacher – if homework is not completed by the new deadline, pupils should lose their free time to complete the work.
3. Head of Year – pupils who repeatedly do not hand in their homework should be referred to their Head of Year. It is the subject teacher's responsibility to log this on SIMs.

Incentives

High quality homework and a good ethos should be sensitively praised in class. When appropriate, homework should be included in display work. Achievement points should be awarded for good homework. For an exceptional piece of homework, a pupil may receive a Head Teacher's Award.

Links to other school policies and procedures:

This policy is intended to be used in conjunction with the school's:

- Assessment Policy
- Marking Policy