



Homework Policy

Homework is intended to improve achievement and help our pupils to develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful lifelong learning. Pupils in each year group will be set regular homework.

The objectives in giving homework are:

- to establish consistent study patterns
- to reinforce subject matter learned in class
- to prepare for new learning activities
- to develop research skills
- to establish independent learning skills
- to show progress and understanding
- to provide differentiated and challenging work for all students
- to provide feedback for the evaluation of teaching.

Frequency and Duration

The following are guidelines, and will depend to some extent on the individual, the subject and the class.

Year 7-9	20 - 40 minutes per subject (approximately 45 – 60 minutes per night)
Year 10 & 11	the equivalent of 30 – 60 minutes per week per GCSE subject
Year 12 & 13	the equivalent of 60 – 90 minutes per subject per week

When will homework be set?

Years 7 - 9

Home work is set according to the school homework timetable. Homework may be set on a day when a subject is not studied in order to spread the workload through the week. Students will also be able to manage their time more efficiently, encouraging independence and personal planning. There will be no PE homework at KS3 and Drama will set it as is appropriate. Where there is only 1 lesson per week in a particular subject, e.g. ICT, a longer homework may be set every second or third week.

Year 10 & 11

All subject areas set homework for examined courses. The school homework timetable provides a framework, but the exact frequency and duration of homework is decided by the class teacher and is based upon the requirements of the course and the individual student.

Years 12 & 13

All subject areas set homework for examined courses. The school homework timetable provides a framework, but the exact frequency and duration of homework is decided by the class teacher and is based upon the requirements of the course and the individual student.



What happens if homework is not done?

Students are expected to complete homework as soon as possible after it is set and certainly by the deadline stated by the teacher. When homework is not completed, teachers should initially support the pupil and ensure the tasks set meet the pupil's needs. If this is so, then the following strategies should be employed:-

- 1) **Class teacher** - discussion and negotiation with pupil, informing parents via student planner. Pupils may be given extra time to complete homework (assuming valid reason for non-completion is given). Alternatively, a detention may be given at break or lunch time. Notice of this may not be given to parents.
- 2) In cases of repeated failure to complete homework, the subject teacher will refer to the relevant **Form Tutor** and **Head of Department**, who will take action as appropriate. This may include after school or Saturday detentions (parents will be informed) or a request for parents to attend a meeting at school.

Homework and Holidays

As a guiding principle, we believe that holidays are important to our families, who tell us that they value the leisure time spent together. However, we also appreciate that for others it is important to maintain and develop subject skills. This is especially true in examination years, and so students in Years 11 and 13 may well expect to receive homework during holidays. If parents would like study material for students during holidays, they should approach the subject teacher in the weeks prior to the holiday to arrange this. It is useful to remember that students have access to a wide range of academic and reading materials via the internet, and that these are a valuable source of practice whether in school or away on holiday.

Teacher Guidance

Teachers should set homework in accordance with the school timetable. It should be neither too much nor too little, and always appropriate to the students and their needs.

In our teaching we always aim to be excellent, and the same should be true of the homework tasks we set our students. We try to avoid homework that is merely repetitive, unless we are confident that this will be of real benefit. Our homework should challenge and inspire, creating opportunities to demonstrate skills in a variety of media and situations. Homework assignments should be marked in a timely fashion, using the same informative assessment methods that we apply to classwork.

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