

The best for everyone The best from everyone We have faith in our future

# HOMEWORK POLICY

Approved by	Local Governing Committee
Date Approved	2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024
Review Date	Summer 2027

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# 1. Homework Policy

## 1.1 Rationale

"Homework is not an optional extra, but an essential part of a good education." 1999 White Paper, Excellence in Schools

Homework is an important part of students' learning; it supports and extends learning that takes place in class and enables students to develop habits of study and strategies for personal organisation and time management. Homework is an integral part of the curriculum. It requires careful planning and integration into each curriculum area. It is also a means by which parents can support and show a direct interest in young peoples' learning. There is clear evidence that demonstrates that students make progress when they embrace homework and see the clear purpose of the task being set.

"When students know that the effort that they put into homework will enhance their participation and enjoyment in the classroom learning, they become more motivated." Judy Willis, Neurologist (2015)

Through homework, our students will become flexible independent learners, who are able to cope with the demands of their future working life.

#### 1.2 Task Setting

Homework tasks will vary according to subjects and learning activities, but the principles remain the same. All homework that is set must follow the school policy and timetable.

"The most effective homework is an integral part of learning, rather than an add on" EEF (2017)

Possible homework tasks which could be set include:

- Completing interactive, online activities using learning platforms
- Wider reading and note-making
- Research tasks to inform in class work
- Flipped Learning: prepare work to be completed in class, e.g. read an article, make notes, watch a video and answer questions etc
- Study and learn notes/vocabulary
- Drafting and redrafting work
- Watch or listen to particular TV and radio programmes or online videos, recording key points to inform in class work
- Projects for a series of homework's that are broken down into key success criteria
- Preparation for presentations
- Artistic/creative tasks
- Practising skills/concepts learned during the lesson, e.g. exam questions
- Tasks which involve parents or other adults, e.g. interviews, testing vocabulary/spelling

- An opportunity to provide the teacher with feedback about a topic e.g. notes, reportback preparation, self-assessments.
- Revision in preparation for a test or assessment
- Use of knowledge organisers to complete set tasks.

## 2. Homework Aims

All homework must be purposeful and meet one of the following aims:

- Promote independent learning
- Extend learning beyond the lesson, show progress and understanding
- Consolidating learning and prepare students for new learning activities
- Engage parental cooperation and support
- Managing demands (e.g. coursework)
- Preparing for lesson activities
- Enhance study skills e.g. planning, time management and self-discipline.

## 3. Homework Timetable

In order to enable pupils to experience high quality, purposeful homework that supports and extends learning pupils are not assigned specific homework on specific nights; the class teacher takes responsibility for setting the homework when it is most appropriate, following the principles listed above and the times that pupils are expected to spend on homework listed below.

Key Stage 3 Subject	Time Allocated
English	45-90 minutes per fortnight
Maths	45-90 minutes per fortnight
Science	45-90 minutes per fortnight
RS	30-60 minutes every three weeks
Spanish	30-60 minutes per fortnight
Geography	30-60 minutes per fortnight
History	30-60 minutes per fortnight
Computer Science	30-60 minutes every three weeks
DT	30-60 minutes every three weeks
Catering	30-60 minutes every three weeks
Art	30-60 minutes every three weeks
Music	30-60 minutes every four weeks

In KS3 pupils can expect:

РА	30-60 minutes every three weeks
PSHE	30-60 minutes every four weeks

In KS4 pupils can expect

Key Stage 4 Subject	Time Allocated
English	60-90 minutes per fortnight
Maths	60-90 minutes per fortnight
Science	60-90 minutes per fortnight
PSHE	30-60 minutes every four weeks
Options Subjects	45-90 minutes per fortnight

## 4. Homework Principles

Homework will not generally be set for the next day unless it's a short consolidation task or preparation task.

All homework must receive feedback: formal/informal/teacher assessed/peer or selfassessed, or be used as part of the learning process, as a starter, for example.

## 5. The Setting and Recording of Homework

We are preparing our students to be independent learners. All homework at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 will be set on Edulink. This sends notifications to the students and parents (if they have the app) when homework is set. Teachers will also notify students in class.

## 6. Supporting Students with Homework

In order to support our students with the completion of homework and allow them access to resources that they may not have access to at home we provide support through the library. This supervised support is available every lunchtime and after school in the library.

# 7. Quality assurance systems for monitoring and ensuring that homework is effective

- Classroom teachers have the responsibility to set homework using Edulink as per the Academy policy. It is essential that homework, in a similar way to classwork, is scaffolded so that it is accessible to all students.
- Subject Leaders have the responsibility to ensure that there is a clear understanding of the homework policy and ensure consistency across their faculty through QA. This will include; student voice, learning walks, Edulink checks, and book looks.

- Form Tutors have the responsibility to monitor completion of homework by pupils in their forms in line with general form tutor checks and signpost students to appropriate support if any issues arise.
- SLT will check the quality and consistency of homework across school through student voice, learning walks, Edulink checks and book scrutiny.

## 8. Rewarding Homework

High quality homework and hard work should be praised and rewarded in line with our rewards system. Achievement points can be issued using Edulink which will add to the students' cumulative total and will enable them to access the suite of rewards available.

Where appropriate, homework should be included in display work and showcased to others in the Academy. Teachers may wish to send postcards home for exceptional pieces of homework.

## 9. Sanctions for non-engagement in Homework

When homework is not completed, this must be logged on Edulink and the appropriate sanction should be issued.

Missed homework – Class teacher to log this on Edulink using HWK button. This will alert parents/ carers to the missing homework. Class teacher are to decide on a suitable extended deadline for the homework to be completed and inform the student.

If the student, then fails to complete the homework for the extended deadline this is logged by the class teacher on Edulink as a Homework Detention. This will alert parents/carers, Form Tutor and PYL. The student will be required to attend the detention to complete the set homework.

### 10. Responsibilities

#### 10.1 Of the student

- To listen to homework instructions in class.
- To check Edulink for details of homework each day.
- To ensure that homework is completed and handed in to meet the deadline.
- To attempt all work and give their best.
- To inform the class teacher of any difficulties ahead of the deadline.

#### 10.2 Of the Form Tutor

• To guide students to additional support for homework completion where appropriate e.g. homework club.

#### 10.3 Of the Class Teacher

- Set homework according to the timetable and to record this on Edulink.
- Provide any resources required for completion of the set task.
- Give full and comprehensive instructions.
- Set deadlines for completed work and ensure that they are met.
- Provide feedback promptly.
- Provide help and support.
- Inform the Head of Department, Form Tutor and PYL, as appropriate when problems arise.
- Reward and sanction as appropriate using Edulink.