

Homework Policy



Believe, Succeed, Together

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1.0 Introduction

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

Homework is work that is set to be done outside the timetabled curriculum. It contains an element of independent study in that it is not usually directly supervised by a teacher.

Not all homework is done at home; in fact, for some pupils who find it hard to work at home, or for some tasks which may require resources (books, software, equipment) more readily available at school, it is necessary or desirable to carry out the task at school.

2.0 What are the objectives in giving homework?

- Consolidate and extend learning. *The quality of homework provision (rather than quantity) is key in achieving this aim.*
- Prepare pupils for new learning activities.
- Enhance pupil study skills, such as planning, time-management and self-discipline.
- Encourage independent study skills.
- Engage the co-operation and support of parents.

3.0 What are the key tenets for effective homework?

Departments should use the following guidance when planning and setting homework.

- SoW and PoS contain clear opportunities for homework.
- Homework tasks are linked to assessment criteria.
- Teachers set homework that is age and stage appropriate.
- Teachers set homework which consolidates pupils' learning.
- Teachers set challenging homework.
- Teachers set challenging homework which consolidates pupils' (particularly the most able) learning and deepens their understanding.
- Homework is marked in accordance with the Marking Policy.

4.0 How much time should be allocated for homework?

Nationally, KS3 pupils complete between 45-60 minutes of homework per day and KS4 pupils complete between 90 – 150 minutes per day. The focus at the Academy is not on the quantity of homework but the quality of the provision. Departmental schemes of work should provide suggestions and hyperlinks to relevant, high quality homework which genuinely consolidates and/or extends learning.

5.0 How will homework be monitored?

HoD undertake homework audits once a term.

HoH undertake regular checks of pupils' planners to monitor the completion of homework (refer to Behaviour and Discipline Policy).

SLT quality assure homework across the Academy, along the following lines:

- The day of the check is agreed by the designated member of SLT and allocated HoD.
- The relevant HoD will arrange for all subject books, folders etc to be collected and left in individual teaching rooms.
- The designated member of SLT and HoD will review homework across the department using the relevant pro forma.
- Any missing sets of books will be requested and seen.
- Findings and subsequent targets will be addressed at SLT level and within line management meetings.