



Homework Policy

Aims

These include:

- to consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding in work undertaken in lessons
- to enable students to develop the confidence and self-discipline which will encourage independent learning
- to provide opportunities for students to develop their own investigative and study techniques and thus extend their learning
- to help students to develop their time-management and organisational skills
- to manage particular demands of the curriculum including coursework
- to encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning
- to encourage students to make use of resources not necessarily available in the classroom

Time Allocation

While it is difficult to determine how long each student will spend on homework, the following gives an indication of the **maximum** amount of time they should expect to spend each week. This is a guideline only and the actual amount will depend on the nature of the task and how subjects allocate their homework over a time period, but students are strongly discouraged from regularly exceeding these amounts:

Year 7	6 hours /week	[Homework timetable published in September of each year]
Year 8	8 hours /week	[Homework timetable published in September of each year]
Year 9	9 hours /week	[Homework timetable published in September of each year]
Year 10	&11	11 hours /week = 1 hour per subject x 11 subjects
Years 12&13	12 hours /week	= 4 hours per subject x 4/3 subjects

Procedures

1. The Heads of Year (of Key Stage 3) will produce a homework schedule/timetable for Years 7, 8 and 9, which will be issued at the beginning of the academic year in accordance with the school timetable. Year 7 will not be set homework for the first few weeks of the Autumn Term in order to help them to settle into school. Teachers will set homework for students in other year groups at an appropriate time within the terms of the Homework Policy.
2. Homework, as far as possible, will be planned within each department to form part of the scheme of work, which will ensure consistency within the department and equal opportunities for all teaching groups.
3. At times, it may be appropriate to set a longer or more time-consuming task to be completed over a number of homeworks, although in these cases guidance will be given to enable students to break down the task into smaller stages so that it is manageable.
4. Teachers who share classes will liaise over the setting of homework to ensure that the total amount set is manageable for students.
5. On occasion, it may not be appropriate to set homework. More important is that any work set is meaningful.
6. Enough time will be set aside during the lesson to explain the nature and purpose of the task set, its relevance to on-going learning in the subject and expectations in terms of outcomes, including how it will be assessed.

7. A reasonable amount of time will be given for students to complete the homework, and allowance given for the overall amount of homework they have to complete in any given week.
8. Planners, in which details of work to be done at home may be recorded, will be made available to students. The planner also acts as a useful record of work set for parents to view.
9. Homework will be assessed regularly, and records kept. This assessment will be diagnostic, supportive and identify both strengths and areas for improvement. Marking will be consistent across the department, in line with the whole school marking policy, and feedback will be given as promptly as possible.
10. Self and peer assessment of homework can benefit students' learning as much as feedback from the teacher, and teachers may also provide opportunities for this where appropriate.
11. Where possible, time will be allocated in a lesson to the checking of corrected homework and going over aspects of the work so that students learn from the process.
12. When a test is set in a subject, teachers will take account of the time needed for revision for the test and will not normally set additional homework.
13. It is not expected that homework or revision will normally be set to be completed during school holidays, unless it is revision for mock or public examinations. In the two-week period before each set of end of year exams in KS3, and before mocks or internal exams in other year groups, only revision homework will be set.
14. It is expected that students will complete homework to the best of their ability by the deadline set, except where there are serious mitigating circumstances. Any student regularly experiencing difficulty in meeting deadlines is strongly encouraged to discuss the issue with their subject teacher as soon as possible so that support may be put in place. Students who persistently produce unfinished or unsatisfactory work will be referred to the Subject Leader and, where appropriate, the Head of Key Stage. Parents will be informed of any problems at an early stage.

Homework Types

Students will have the opportunity to use different learning styles and to develop a range of skills. Tasks may include:

- Preparing for next lesson by reading, researching, planning, organising discussion or presentation
- Essay writing
- Completing surveys or practical observations or measurements
- Drawing charts or diagrams
- Writing up notes
- Drawing conclusions or answering questions from class work
- Devising puzzles, quizzes, crosswords, games, etc.
- Imaginative writing
- Learning or revision tasks
- Projects or coursework
- Research or investigative work

Monitoring and Review

It is the responsibility of the Subject Leader/Head of Department to ensure that the Homework Policy is followed consistently by all members of a department. Heads of Year/Key Stages will take an overview of homework for their respective Year Group/Key Stage and will intervene in the case of any student experiencing difficulties with homework. The overall effectiveness of the Policy will be monitored by the Senior Team.

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Reviewed May 2026