

# Homework Policy

<b>Reviewed</b>	January 2024	<b>Leader of Policy Review</b>	A. Boyd
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- 1. Homework is an essential element in assisting students to develop the skills that they require.*
- 2. Homework should be meaningful and be relevant to students' current and future learning needs.*
- 3. Students generally receive an appropriate amount of homework, although this is not always consistently applied.*
- 4. Students (and their parents) do not always regard revision or preparations for controlled assessments as formal homework activities.*
- 5. Students do not always use planners appropriately to record homework.*
- 6. Variation exists in the monitoring of planners, both by tutors and parents.*
- 7. Whilst there should not be a rigid homework timetable, students should expect regular homework to be set, which should be completed promptly and feedback provided in a timely manner.*

## Homework Statement

The purpose of homework is to extend learning beyond the classroom and to assist students in preparing for external examinations and developing the skills and attitudes that they require for the next stage of their learning.

## The Nature of the Homework

*Homework may include the following:*

- Literacy or numeracy related activities.
- Completion of reading or a written exercise to practise, enforce or apply aspects of the work undertaken in class.
- Completion of a project. This may involve research and presenting work using computers. IT facilities are available in school during break time, lunchtime or after school for students who do not have access to IT at home.
- Observing/recording.
- Practical work – model making, drawing, finding items to bring into the classroom.
- Revision for a test or preparation for a controlled assessment.
- Use of a specific computer program or work sourced from the Moodle site.
- It is expected that homework tasks should generally take up to 30 minutes for students in Key Stage 3, and up to 45 minutes for students in Key Stage 4.

## How does the school organise and monitor the setting of homework?

- Each student is issued with a planner at the beginning of the year. Students are expected to record the homework task and the date that the homework is due in.
  - Each subject's schemes of work and learning plans will highlight appropriate homework activities.
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- Each faculty will set a policy for the completion of homework. As a guide it is anticipated that every subject area will set homework at least once during each timetable cycle (10 school days), although it is recognised that the tasks set will be variable, dependent upon the nature of the subject; in some situations an extended task may be set and undertaken over several weeks.
- Instructions concerning homework are given during lessons and students are given time to record what is expected of them. Where a task is to be undertaken over several weeks, the task will, where practicable, be separated into sections and recorded as such in the planner.
- Homework will be assessed regularly as appropriate, enabling students to receive constructive feedback; self-assessment and peer assessment activities will be utilised in addition to marking by teachers.
- Subject teachers will periodically check that homework has been recorded, particularly if the student has a track record of not completing and / or submitting homework on time. Where practicable teachers or support staff will assist students in the recording of homework tasks.
- Where appropriate, students' high levels of effort in the completion of homework will be recognised through the awarding of house points through E-Praise.
- Form tutors will regularly check that the planner is being used appropriately and sign the planner for each week.
- Subject leaders supported by Curriculum Leaders and the Senior Leadership Teams, will monitor the setting of homework periodically and ensure that good practice is shared in faculty / department meetings.
- Sanctions will be applied for students who do not attempt the homework set.
- Parents are asked to regularly check and sign the Planner, discussing the homework set with their children. Parents are asked to provide feedback to teachers / form tutors if any concerns about homework arise.

## How can Parents Help?

- Check that homework details are filled in clearly and regularly in the homework planner every week.
- Check to see if there are any messages from the form tutor or subject teacher.
- Help children to organise time well so that things are not left to the last minute or even forgotten.
- Ensure that children check their bag to ensure that necessary books and equipment are brought to school.
- Try to make sure that there are suitable working conditions at home.
- Take a positive and active interest in your child's work at home rather than just insisting that it is done.
- Contact the school if there are problems with homework that cannot be resolved at home.

## Failure to Hand in Homework

We expect homework to be produced on time. This gives students valuable experience of working to deadlines and facilitates staff with their marking schedules. If homework is not given in, appropriate action will be taken:

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- Subject teacher will discuss with student the reasons why homework has not been completed. A detention will be given and recorded onto the SIMS behaviour log. Subject teachers, curriculum managers, tutors or a member of the house team may contact parents to discuss concerns, particularly if a pattern is emerging.
- A referral may be made to the learning coach for appropriate follow up.
- Persistent offenders may be placed in Headteacher's Detention or referred to the leadership group for further discussions and follow up.

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