



## Homework Policy

### Definition of Homework

In this policy 'homework' refers to any work, research or other activities related to learning which students are asked to do outside lesson time.

### Purpose

Commitment to the school's homework policy is an important part of the home school agreement designed to improve student motivation, progress and attainment and parental support is key to successful outcomes.

### Ofsted

Advice from the Government is that 'homework is important at all stages in a child's education and can extend the challenge open to the student ensuring teaching time is used to maximum effect'.

### Aims

The aims of homework are to:

- ensure learning in the classroom is consolidated or reinforced.
- extend learning, for example through additional reading, enquiry or research tasks.
- encourage students to develop the study skills, confidence and self motivation needed to learn effectively on their own. These skills are essential for life long learning.
- enable students to manage particular demands effectively such as preparation for tests and exams, GCSE's.
- encourage a partnership in learning between student, parent and teacher.

### Recording Homework Details

- Form tutors should ask students to write in the subjects for homework for the week according to the homework timetable. (2015-16) can be seen on the school website.
- Form tutors should explain to students that where possible they should complete homework tasks according to the homework timetable. Delaying tasks until the night before they are due in will lead to an irregular quantity of homework each night.
- Subject teachers must endeavour to ensure that students write down homework instructions in the correct place and that the date for completion is entered.
- Planners should be checked at regular intervals by parents, class tutors and subject teachers to ensure good working habits are being developed by the student.

### Expectations of the Homework Policy

This homework policy is part of the wider partnership between student, parent and school and to be effective it is essential all concerned are clear about what is expected of them.

### **The school is expected to:**

- provide a homework programme and make it available to students and parents. The schedule is posted on the school website.

This is agreed by each curriculum area in collaboration with the Senior Leader (Curriculum). On completion of the school timetable, Curricular areas submit their requirements to the Assistant Head (Curriculum) who prepares and issues the school homework timetables to staff to share with students in their planner.

- ensure homework activities are appropriate and manageable in the homework time allocated for the students age and ability

### **Homework can be:**

- Independent learning
  - Consolidation of work in class
  - Practice - learning by doing
  - Completion of course work assignments
  - Research
  - Reading
  - Interviews
  - Drawing
  - Using ICT
  - Recording
- 
- ensure the homework task and date for completion are clearly written down.
  - provide student planners which tutors monitor and sign weekly.
  - ensure homework is marked or assessed and feedback given as appropriate.
  - provide a homework grade on the school progress reports.
  - provide a homework club for students experience difficulties in managing homework organisation.
  - have high expectations of students in completing homework and apply procedures for non completion of homework consistently.

### **The student is expected to:**

- ensure all homework is completed on time, brought to class and completed to the best of the students ability.
- write the homework task and the date for the completion in the student planners . Students should ensure they understand the task before leaving the lesson.
- adhere to homework guidance for students (on school website)

### **The parent is requested to:**

- support the homework policy by encouraging and supporting students in their homework and signing the student planners once a week.
- provide an area where homework can be completed by the student in a satisfactory manner.
- notify the school if there is a reason why homework could not be completed.
- support the schools procedures for non or unsatisfactory completion of homework.

### **The Governors are expected to:**

- ensure the Homework Policy is part of the Home School Agreement and is reviewed and monitored as part of the wider learning and teacher policy for the school.

### **Sanctions**

When homework is not completed, teachers should initially support the student and ensure the tasks set meet the student's needs. If this is so, then sanctions should be used. A note should be put in the planner and recorded on SIMS. Teachers receive support from their Curriculum leader and Senior staff. The sanctions are as follows:

#### **Stage 1**

##### **Departmental detention: (Homework support)**

Each area will run its own detention at lunchtime or after school.

Departments may want to combine for ease of staffing and support.

Students who would be required to attend two on the same day would have to attend one other and do the other one the following week. The homework may be done before hand but the detention must still be served.

#### **Stage 2**

##### **Curriculum Leaders/ Subject Leaders Detention**

Failure to turn up to one of these detentions would automatically put them into a Curriculum Leader detention on a designated night for 30 mins. This can be rotated around CL's so reducing the time CL are doing detentions. A phone call home is required and information must be recorded in students planners.

## **Stage 3**

### **Year Achievement Managers Detention**

Failure to turn up to a CL detention automatically puts them into a YAM detention for 30 mins on a designated night in a designated room for consistency. A phone call home will be required and recorded in students planners.

## **Stage 4**

### **SLT Detention**

Failure to turn up to a YAM detention automatically puts them into a SLT detention for 60 mins on a designated night in a designated room for consistency. A letter should go home and a phone call. A member of the office team will collect detainees at the end of period 5 and escort them to their detention.

### **Incentives**

High quality homework and a good work ethos should be sensitively praised in class.

Where appropriate, homework should be included in display work. Credits and rewards for achievement and sustained effort may be awarded for good homework. For exceptional pieces of homework, a curriculum letter or postcard may be sent home or a phone call home.

## **Monitoring**

### **Students**

Homework diaries will be checked by:

1. The Form Tutor (weekly)
2. The Year Achievement Manager (sampled every few weeks)
3. The Senior Leader Team (sampled termly)

### **Subject Staff**

1. Will keep a record of homework tasks as part of a lesson plan.
2. Make the record available to the Curriculum Leader.

### **Curriculum Leader**

1. Will sample homework records.
2. Will look at examples of homework and talk to students and staff according to monitoring programme using homework monitoring criteria.
3. Will evaluate and update action plan.

## **Senior Leader Team**

1. Will sample homework records through curriculum reviews and CL's
2. Will sample examples of work and talk to students according to monitoring programme.
3. Will review school policy annually.

## **Evaluation**

- Whose needs are met?
- Whose needs are not being met and why?
- What are the problems that require short and long term solutions?
- What is the relationship of homework to the curriculum?
- How can policy and planning be more effective?