

Title: Homework Policy

Designated Teacher: H. Gregg

Adopted: September 2018

Review Period: Three Years

Review Date: July 2021

“Educating for Life”



Rationale:

Homework Policy

We have reviewed our previous homework policy in order to respond to parental feedback regarding the existing system. In particular, our aim is to make homework consistent for students in a Key Stage whichever class they may be in, and to ensure that the homework that is set is a meaningful and productive exercise which enhances their progress and understanding of the subject.

Amount of Homework

At Key Stage 3, students should receive 1 piece of homework a week in the core subjects (English, Maths and Science) and 1 piece a fortnight in other subjects which is reflective of the amount of curriculum time given to these subjects. In Languages, homework may be given as a number of short pieces of homework rather than as a single task in order to support the learning of new vocabulary. Some subjects with less curriculum time are exceptions to this and may only receive one piece of homework per half term. Key Stage 3 students are expected to spend approximately 30 minutes on each piece of homework set

At Key Stage 4, students should receive 1 piece a week of homework from each examination subject, although where subjects have an extended piece of work this may be one piece of homework that takes several weeks. If a student is studying the separate sciences, they will receive 3 pieces of homework from science over a fortnight. Key Stage 4 students are expected to spend approximately 45-60 minutes of homework for each subject per week.

At Key Stage 5, the reduced number of subjects and the increased demands of the courses means that the amount of homework set for subjects will similarly increase. Students must be prepared to devote both their study periods and a significant amount of home study to meeting the demands of the course. Key Stage 5 students are expected to complete approximately 3 hours per subject per week.

High Starters

Students should be set class and homework at an appropriate level but for more able students who are looking for opportunities to stretch and challenge themselves teachers will be happy to provide additional work. For students in KS3 we are developing a super-curricular programme which provides additional ideas to allow students to explore the subjects and topics they enjoy in more depth. This programme complements the work the students are doing in class and provides suggestions for further research and activities. It can be found in the 'Curriculum' area of our website. Students completing super-curricular work can bring it to their form tutor, the relevant subject teacher or to Dr Langstaff (Head of High Starters).

Homework Deadlines

There is no homework timetable in order to avoid the setting of artificial homework. Homework should be set at the point in the week at which it is relevant to the learning of the group. As a result, a student may be set several pieces of work on one day. In order to help students with their time management and to ensure their workload is reasonable, we ask that staff do not set work to be completed for the next day.

Type of Homework

Types of homework will vary by subject and at all Key Stages and will be set at the discretion of the subject teacher.

Communication of Homework

All homework should be written in planners by the students and teachers will input the details of the task and the deadline on the MCAS system. Parents should sign the student planner at the end of each week to acknowledge that homework tasks have been seen.

Assessment and Feedback of Homework

Some key pieces of homework at all Key Stages will be marked by the subject teacher and returned in the following lessons. These key pieces of homework will be marked in accordance with the school marking policy using the WWW. And EBI. Stickers. When homework is returned to the students the students should 'respond' to the feedback given and should then complete DIRT time to improve/correct their performance. All homework should be clearly marked 'Homework' and underlined by the student in their exercise books.

Sanctions for Missed Deadlines and Poor Effort with Homework

Where deadlines are missed and /or a poor effort has been made with homework without a legitimate reason the following sanctions will apply:

1. A Negative point on the school behaviour system.
2. Note to parents written in the student planner.
3. Teacher detention as either break or lunch time.
4. Failure to attend a teacher detention will result in a departmental detention.
5. Failure to attend a departmental detention will result in a school detention.
6. Persistent offenders will either be referred to the associated Head of Department of Head of Year for further intervention and parents may be asked to attend a meeting in school to discuss and resolve the issues.

