

## **Homework Policy 2024/5**

*Reviewed June 2024 with no changes*

Homework refers to planned, meaningful and worthwhile tasks that are designed to extend the learning of the student outside the classroom. Homework is important in raising student achievement (which can lead to, on average, five months' additional progress). It is a valuable and worthwhile learning experience for all students and has several different purposes:

1. To extend and support every student's independent learning
2. To enable the students to prepare for assessments
3. To enable students to recall and rehearse prior learning
4. To further develop work for Non-Examined Assessments
5. To develop skills and attributes such as resilience and investigation as well as all the other qualities in I can, I will
6. To develop abilities in time management and organisation essential in life and beneficial to students as they leave the Academy
7. To reinforce work started in class, extending knowledge and understanding
8. To allow students to gain and practise the skills and knowledge that they will be required to reproduce in assessment situations such as exams
9. To engage parents and carers in the learning process

### **The Amount of Homework**

The expectation of the length of homework will depend on: the curriculum time for each subject; the nature of the work; the ability of the students and the particular year group. We recognise the importance of family life and the mental wellbeing of all the students, so homework should not take an excessive amount of time. On average:

- **Year 7 and 8 students** should expect to spend between 20-30 minutes on each homework task, approximately 60 minutes per day. Art, Computing and RE will set homework once per fortnight. Drama and Music will set homework once per half term. All other subjects, apart from PE, will set homework once per week.
- **Year 9 students** should expect to spend between 30-45 minutes on each homework task, approximately 60 to 90 minutes per day. Computing and RE will set homework once per fortnight. All other subjects, apart from core PE, will set homework once per week.
- **Year 10 and 11 students** should expect to spend between 45-60 minutes on each homework task, approximately 60 to 90 minutes per day. All subjects, apart from core PE, will set homework once per week.
- **Year 12 and 13 students** should expect homework tasks of at least 3 hours per subject per week, but they are expected to supplement work in lessons and for homework with self-directed study (e.g. reading around the subject, preparing revision notes, completing past exam questions).

### **Homework Tasks**

Homework requires careful planning and linked to learning. To be effective, homework must be relevant, meaningful, fit for purpose, interesting and contribute to the challenge of raising achievement. Homework tasks should be differentiated, and appropriate to the needs of individuals, so that all students feel competent completing it.

For the majority of students in the majority of subjects, homework will be in the form of:

- Online assessments requiring the students to recall prior learning
- Revision and recall for tests, assessments and Starter for 10s
- Work for NEA (Non Examined Assessments)

On other rarer occasions it may take the form of:

- Research to find additional information in preparation for future lessons
- Learning e.g. facts, vocabulary, spellings
- Extension tasks that deepen the learning in the lesson
- Reading
- Answering questions to review class work
- Practising what students have learned in the classroom e.g. exam questions, presentations
- Projects to supplement the learning (completed over several weeks)
- Drawings or design work
- Note-taking and writing up notes taken in lesson
- On-line/App learning
- Making improvements to work
- Revising and re-learning for tests and internal and external exams

Homework should not be used for 'finishing off' class work or used as a sanction for poor performance. During internal exams and the week prior, homework must be revising, re-learning and preparing for the exams only. Subjects that do not have internal exams will not set homework during this time for that year group.

For SEND students, homework tasks should be differentiated and balanced, to allow them to share fully in the work of the class and cater for their individual learning needs. Prior liaison with the SEND Co-ordinator and LSAs should aim to ensure that tasks are manageable and skill practice incorporated.

All students have the opportunity to complete homework in school in homework clubs and in the Learning Hub.

## **Responsibilities**

### **The role of the student:**

- To listen to homework instructions in class
- To demonstrate a commitment to spending the allocated time completing the tasks set
- To use Class Charts to organise themselves when completing homework
- To ensure all homework is completed and handed in on time
- To attempt all work and give their best
- To inform the class teacher of any difficulties before the deadline date
- To see their teacher as soon as they can if absent when homework is set, to collect their homework and new deadline.

### **The role of the form tutor:**

- To discuss and monitor homework in form period via Class Charts
- To inform the Year Leader when significant problems arise

### **The role of the class teacher:**

- To set appropriate homework, which is clearly related to class work.
- To set a reasonable amount of time for students to complete the homework
- To set a variety of tasks, developing different skills and involving a range of activities
- To give clear information on the purpose of the homework and the task itself should be fully explained

- To provide help and support
- To provide students with specific and timely written or verbal feedback on homework
- To keep a record of homework set in RAP folders and Class Charts
- To praise homework that has been completed well
- To follow the school procedures for the non-completion of homework
- To inform the Head of Department and Form Tutor when significant problems arise

**The role of parents/carers in supporting their child:**

- To provide, where possible, a peaceful place in which their child can do their homework
- To reinforce the value of homework by showing an interest in their child's work and praising them when they have completed their homework
- To check that homework via Class Charts
- To ensure that a reasonable amount of time is spent on homework each night
- To inform the school if homework cannot be completed for a good reason or if they have any issues regarding homework.

**Monitoring roles:**

- Year Leaders: monitoring homework completion, supporting form tutors and following up any concerns referred to them.
- Heads of Department: monitoring the quality and standard of homework within their department, as well as following up any concerns referred to them. Monitoring the setting and type of homework through classcharts. (each fortnight – classcharts report. Select analytics, then homework. Set the dates, then select teacher, all lessons and homework type. The report can be downloaded as an excel document, and then shared with SLT link in the meetings)
- Leadership Team: monitoring to ensure that homework is being set and to carry out systematic sampling at regular intervals through book monitoring and learning walks.

## Homework Protocol

