

Homework Policy

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Status: Approved

Approved by: [Local Governing Body] — Date: September 2025

Next review date: [12 months after approval]

Homework is work that is completed outside of the timetabled curriculum with the expectation of independent study. When done well, homework enhances students' learning of key knowledge, improves attainment and develops students' study skills and as such is an integral part of the school curriculum. Homework requires careful planning, linked to the knowledge organiser and integrated into the scheme of work of each curriculum area to support a mastery approach to learning. The quality of homework tasks and their relevance to main class teaching is more important than the amount set.

Aims: Homework enables students to develop habits of working independently and learn key knowledge.

It will enable students to:

- consolidate and extend work covered in class or prepare for new learning activities.
- show progress and understanding of key knowledge.
- prepare for assessments and end of year examinations.
- access resources not available in the classroom.
- develop research skills.
- have an opportunity for independent and creative work.
- enhance their study skills e.g. planning, time management and self-discipline.
- take ownership and responsibility for their learning.
- engage parental co-operation and support.
- create channels for home school dialogue.

Expectations: The following expectations exist for teachers, all students, and parents:

Each teacher will:

- set meaningful homework linked to key knowledge so that students understand the purpose of the tasks and why they are important.
- clearly explain the homework tasks during lessons so students are fully aware of work set and how to succeed.
- link some homework tasks to knowledge organisers.
- consider the capabilities of the class: homework that students can't do without help is not appropriate, so tasks may need adaptation.
- where possible provide students with choice to create ownership. assign varied tasks that will engage and interest students. reinforce and test completed homework by frequent and regular low stakes tests such as Do now tasks.
- reward completed homework by awarding positive points.

Each student will:

- know how to access and complete homework tasks.
- complete homework tasks on time and to the best of their ability.
- develop regular and appropriate study habits which include independent practice.
- understand the relevance and value of homework.

Each parent will:

- know how to access their child's/children's homework tasks.
- encourage their child to complete homework tasks and refer to the knowledge organiser.
- understand the relevance and value of homework

Independent Learning may take a variety of forms, including:

- note-taking
- extended written tasks
- reading
- learning and recording knowledge – for example: facts, vocabulary, spellings
- completing classwork
- research
- drawing or design work
- preparing for discussions or presentations
- on-line learning
- answering questions
- completing worksheets
- revising for assessments and exams
- past paper exam questions

Expectations: How much and by whom?

Guidelines for year group homework workload is listed below:

- Year 7 & 8 – 1 hour per evening (3 x 20 minutes)
- Year 9 – 1.5 hours per evening (2 x 45 minutes)
- Year 10 & 11 – 2 hours per evening (2 x 1 hour)

Completion of homework

Aim:

There is a praise culture around students completing their homework: homework will be acknowledged and celebrated. Students will be made explicitly aware of the benefits of completing their homework tasks. Students are expected to complete their tasks for all subjects. It is an important aspect of their whole school experience and completion is likely to result in students building good independent learning habits, making more rapid progress in subjects and succeeding in the wider school curriculum. When students complete their homework tasks, teachers will acknowledge their effort and work with a positive praise point.

Non-Completion of homework.

Students are expected to complete their homework tasks for all subjects. It is an important aspect of their learning and non-completion is likely to result in students falling behind in progress and achievement. Teachers will support students by directing students to after school homework club and working with parents to ensure homework is completed to the best of their ability.