

Parental Guidance on Homework

Homework should promote learning beyond the classroom to consolidate work done within school, develop a love of learning and support progress. In this it provides students with opportunities to practise and reinforce aspects of classroom learning, become more independent and develop attitudes and skills, including time management which will support life long learning. It also fosters a learning based partnership between home and school.

The following information should help you to support your child to use homework effectively.

The tasks set for homework will vary through the year and across subjects. They might be given several shorter pieces of homework rather than one; or an extended project over several weeks. It is often best to spread homework through the week rather than do it all at one time; this is especially effective in supporting literacy and numeracy. Homework will be differentiated where appropriate and there should be a range of activities to engage students.

There is Homework Support on Lower Site for those who would like to use it, or when a student is struggling. The library is also open until 4.30pm Monday to Thursday for those who wish to do homework there. For some students, there is also 'Chill out club' at lunch time.

On Upper Site there is also homework support for those who are struggling with the quality or completion of homework.

Students monitored within Student Support may have separate arrangements.

Any concerns can be addressed to Form Tutors or the Learning Leader through the Planner or by contacting School directly. We appreciate your support.

Students are expected to:

- Write the homework in their Planner when it is given;
- Make sure enough detail is in the Planner for the work to be done;
- Tick it off once the work is done;
- Speak to the subject teacher before the due date if they are having difficulties completing the work or if they are not sure what is expected;
- Where an extended piece is given for homework, the student can write it in for each week before the due date.

To support your child please could you:

- Sign and check your child's Planner at the end of each week.

Teachers are expected to:

- Set suitable homework as scheduled;
- Check students are recording homework in their Planner;
- Use the Planner to communicate with parents where appropriate;
- Marking should be prompt with feedback as appropriate;

Form Tutors are expected to:

- Check students are recording homework (and its completion) in the Planner;
- Sign the Planner each week and use it for communication with parents.

Subject Leaders, Learning Leaders and Senior Leaders will monitor the use and effectiveness of homework.

Years 7 - 9

No homework will be given in the first week of Year 7. Key subjects (English, Maths, RE and DT) will issue it from the second week, followed by other subjects from the next week. As a guide their homework will follow a pattern similar to the following:

- Weekly homework in English, Maths, Science, RE and Languages;
- Fortnightly homework in all other subjects except PE;
- DT homework patterns will vary according to which option they are studying;
- PE has the option to give homework according to its appropriateness;
- Where a subject is focused on a particular project, additional homework may be issued.
- GCSE examination subjects which begin in Year 9, will issue homework every week.

If parents feel homework is taking too long, please sign the work and write the length of time which has been spent on it. Thank you.

Years 10 & 11

All GCSE subjects are likely to issue homework at least once a week, with English, Mathematics and Science likely to issue it more often. Homework is an integral part of the course, with national data showing a clear correlation between the time spent on homework and good final grades.

Years 12 & 13

Homework is a significant part of every A level course. Self-study and wider background reading is crucial for students to develop both the breadth and depth of knowledge required at this level.

Sanctions will be put in place where a student does not meet the required standards for homework.