



HOMEWORK POLICY

Last Review:	November 2017
Committee:	SLT
Date Ratified:	15/11/17
Next Review:	November 2019

1. Context

- 1.1. Students of all ages and abilities stand to benefit from the completion of appropriate homework. Homework is defined as “any work or activities which students are asked to do outside of lesson time, either on their own, with another student or with their parents”.
- 1.2. Homework should be used to effectively reinforce and/or extend what has been learned in school.
- 1.3. We recognise the vital role that parents play in the education of their child. We strongly believe in the value of a good home-school partnership, which our homework policy reflects.

2. The purpose of homework

- 2.1. Homework is set with a variety of intended outcomes. These include:
 - Encouraging students to develop the skills, confidence and motivation to study effectively on their own;
 - Consolidating and reinforcing the skills and understanding developed at school;
 - Extending school learning to engage and inspire students;
 - Allowing students to practise their study skills in new contexts so they can retain knowledge and know how they learn best;
 - Developing time management and independent study skills;
 - Opportunities for personalised learning where the task given is specific to students’ individual learning needs;
 - Emphasising to students that study and learning are not activities to be compartmentalised into school and out of home life;
 - Helping students to manage the demands of courses, e.g. preparation for controlled assessments and examinations;
 - Ensuring that students recognise the links between good study habits and higher standards of achievement.

3. Types of homework

- 3.1. Homework tasks will have a clear objective, linked to subject schemes of work. Examples of suitable homework tasks include reading, written tasks, researching with clear guidelines and

outcomes, exercises to practise a skill, exam questions, revision or memorising tasks. Poster work is not a suitable homework task.

- 3.2. When setting homework tasks, consideration must be given to the individual needs of students and it may be necessary to differentiate tasks to provide stretch and challenge to MABLE students or to give additional support to less able students.
- 3.3. Homework should not be used for finishing off work carried out in class as this imposes too light a burden on some students and too heavy a burden on others.
- 3.4. Any activity which assumes home ownership of specific resources should be avoided.

4. Quantity of Homework

4.1. Subject teachers ensure that the frequency and quantity of homework is in line with the following guidelines:

4.1.1. At Key Stage 3, students are to be set homework according to the following guidelines:

- Maths, Science, Modern Foreign Languages – weekly homework of 30 minutes per subject in Years 7 and Year 8, and 40 minutes in Year 9
- English – four homeworks per term as set out in the ‘Homework Menu’
- All other subjects, one extended homework per term, in accordance with the Homework Schedule, produced annually by the AHT: T&L.

4.1.2. At Key Stage 4, students are to be set homework of 45-60 minutes per subject, per week.

4.1.3. Sixth Form students are expected to work with a high degree of independence both at school and at home. They should plan their work outside of lessons and include activities appropriate to their course. Homework will be set by teachers and, as a guide, each subject should be providing three to four hours of self-study activities per week. Where the teaching is shared between teachers, the time should be broken down between them.

5. Show My Homework

5.1. The school uses the Show My Homework calendar to manage the homework process and measure the efficacy of work set. The Show My Homework calendar makes it easy for our school to effectively track and monitor the impact of homework and it provides parents with information regarding the homework details and deadlines.

5.2. The school homework calendar can be accessed by students and parents without login details at any time by going to the school website and clicking the homework link. Students and parents/carers will receive a username and password from the school. Logging in allows access to a personalised homework calendar.

5.3. All teachers are expected to set homework using Show My Homework.

6. Feedback on homework

6.1. All homework tasks are recognised either through written feedback (which could be self, peer or teacher marking) or with an effort comment. Feedback on homework tasks should be given in line with the guidelines of the Feedback Policy.

7. The role of parents and carers

7.1. We hope that parents and carers will be willing and able to give their active support to ensure that work completed at home is done so conscientiously and in the best possible conditions. Parents are encouraged to:

- Provide a reasonably peaceful place for doing homework;
- Make it clear to children that they value homework and support the school in showing how it can help them make progress;
- Expect deadlines to be met and check that they are;
- Give praise for the completion of homework.

- 7.2. Information Evenings for parents with children in Years 7 and 10 are held during Term 1 each year, during which the procedures for homework are outlined and the role of parents in supporting students' homework is emphasised.
- 7.3. Parents are encouraged to use Show My Homework to monitor students' homework.

8. Reporting

- 8.1. Reports to parents include a grade in the Learning Profiles section against the following criteria. These criteria assess the quality of homework and diligence in completing homework tasks in line with deadlines.

Homework	
Green	Completed to best of ability and always on time.
Amber	Completed but below expectations and/or sometimes late.
Red	Incomplete and well below expectations.

- 8.2. When homework is not completed, teachers should issue a sanction in line with the stepped approach outlined in the Positive Behaviour for Learning policy.
- 8.3. Teachers should make parents aware when homework completion is a persistent issue. This is done automatically when a Behaviour Point for Lack of Homework is recorded on SIMS.

9. Monitoring Homework

- 9.1. The school will use a variety of reports in Show My Homework to ensure homework is set with purpose, is good quality and is set consistently and effectively across the school.
- 9.2. Leaders of Learning and Heads of Subject are expected to monitor the frequency and quality of homework being set in their subject or Learning Area. This is a regular feature of line management meetings. Members of the SLT will also produced and review reports on the quantity and quality of homework.