



Achieving Excellence - Loving God - Caring for Each Other

Homework Policy

Teachers set challenging homework, in line with the school's policy and as appropriate for the age and stage of pupils, that consolidates learning, deepens understanding and prepares pupils very well for work to come.

OFSTED

Rationale:

Homework is a valuable part of your child's school life. We live in fast changing and dynamic times, therefore we have a duty to develop our students as independent learners, so as to enable them to deal with the challenges that will face them and to allow them to become successful global citizens. Success will come to those who have the 'essential skills', which include self-organisation, determination, resilience, reflectiveness and resourcefulness. Home Learning / Homework should help to develop these attributes.

Homework must:

- be set on, communicated via Doddle (Every piece of homework Yr7-13).
- be purposeful, having a clear educational value – it should be a 'true learning experience'.
- be planned - part of a carefully planned scheme of work.
- support students' learning by encouraging them to reflect on what they have learned and/or prepare for what they are about to learn.
- be justified - make it clear to pupils and parents what has to be done, by when and why it is important.
- be set regularly, as per the Homework Timetable.
- be varied and differentiated.
- interesting and fun.
- link (when appropriate) to Personalised Learning Checklists (PLCs).

Homework must not:

- normally be set for the next day (so that students can organise their workload, other commitments).
- be spontaneous and unplanned.
- normally be 'finishing' off, unless as part of a planned developmental, extension task.
- be unrealistic in terms of time to be taken and/or in terms or difficulty.
- be set without being assigned on Doddle.

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Quantity of homework

We recognise that there is much competition for time in young people's lives today. Our aim is therefore to provide a balance for students, in terms of quality time spent on homework and that spent on other aspects of life e.g. extra – curricular activities. The following guidance provides the opportunity to produce work of the highest quality, whilst not overwhelming the students.

KS3 per fortnight:

Subject	Number of 30 minute units
English	2
Maths	2
Science	2
MFL	2
Art	1
Drama	1
Geography	1
History	1
ICT	1
Music	1
Religious Studies	1
Technology	1
PE	1

KS4 per fortnight:

Subject	Number of 1 hour units
English	3
Maths	3
RS	2
Options	2
Science (2 teachers, 2 per teacher)	4
Science - Triple (3x2)	6

KS5 - Students are expected to do 4 hours per subject, per week, plus 1 hour given to background reading, reflection / evaluation, preparatory work and using PLCs to inform revision, extra exam question practice etc.



Marking and return of homework

- ALL homework will be acknowledged. It is recognised that sometimes a simple acknowledgement e.g. stamp is sufficient.
- Some homework will be formally marked, in line with the school marking policy, and will contain 'quality' written feedback. Marking should have a positive emphasis. Supportive comments and guidance for improvement – followed by NOW tasks.
- Peer marking, when used, should enhance the learning of the marker and the student being marked.
- Homework, where appropriate, will be graded and will be recorded in the teacher's markbook.
- Doddle quizzes will be recorded on the Doddle markbook.

Consequences of not doing homework

- All non-completion of homework should be followed up by teachers. Unexplained failure to produce homework must be entered onto the Progresso negatives behaviour log.
- Homework can be completed under supervision in a C3 detention at lunchtime or afterschool given by the subject teacher. Persistent problems should be referred to the relevant Subject Specialist and detentions given as appropriate.
- Parents will be advised about concerns at any stage.

Support for homework

- Staff are encouraged to organise catch up sessions for students who need time and guidance to complete their homework to the highest appropriate standard. This includes making computers available in departments for those who need them.
- Homework club operates at lunchtime as a place for vulnerable children to go to complete homework.
- If there is no access to a home computer, or if students, on occasion, would prefer to work in school, the School Library, with access to computers, is open for student use after school and at lunchtimes.
- S5 and S6 are available to students at lunchtimes.
- Teaching Assistants will write homework into diaries for those students needing this help.

Students are asked to ensure that they do the following:

- Record homework in the homework diary, along with the deadline.
- Make sure the task is understood and ask for help if necessary.
- Ensure that they stay up to date with homework, tell parents if they cannot complete the task and get them to write a note in your homework diary.
- Make sure enough time is given to the homework tasks.
- Ask for help or additional resources if needed for extended tasks.



Monitoring the setting and marking of homework - Quality Assurance

Subject Specialists are responsible for ensuring that appropriate amounts and styles of homework are planned by their departments, for example in schemes of work. Quality Assurance is carried out on a half-termly basis by CTLs/SLT Line Managers. Half termly reports will also be generated by Doddle in order to ensure that the whole school homework system is being used as directed.

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Date: 15/05/18

Signed (Chair) Richard Lait

Print Name: Richard Lait

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