

Homework Policy

Statement of intent

'Discovering and learning together so that all can flourish'

Homework refers to tasks given to learners by their teachers to be completed outside of usual lessons. It contains an element of independent study, in that it is not usually directly supervised by a teacher.

Homework enhances learning, improves achievement and develops learners' study skills. Research conducted by the Education Endowment Foundation found that 'the impact on homework, on average, is five months additional progress'. They go on to state that 'there is a relatively consistent picture that pupils in schools which give more homework perform better'. As such, it is an integral part of our curriculum and requires careful planning and integration into the scheme of work of each curriculum area.

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/homework>

Not all homework is done at home; in fact, for some learners who find it hard to work at home, or for some tasks which may require resources (books, software, equipment) more readily available at school, it is necessary or desirable to carry out the task at school in one of the supervised study groups.

Aims

Homework enables learners to:

- Consolidate and extend work covered in class or prepare for new learning activities.
- Access resources not available in the classroom.
- Develop research skills such as planning, time management and self-discipline.
- Have an opportunity for independent work.
- Show progress and understanding.
- Take ownership and responsibility for learning.
- Engage parental co-operation and support.
- Create channels for home-school dialogue.

Implementation

What sort of homework tasks should be set?

The nature of the homework tasks set will vary significantly between subjects, year groups and topics. However, research suggests the most effective tasks are: frequent, short and focused on knowledge, which is integrated into lessons. Homework can be:

- Preparation for learning: To prepare for the following lesson
- Consolidation of learning: To make sense of previous learning

- Enriching the learning: Focus on depth, breadth or engagement

Homework could take the form of:

- Self-Quizzing: To practice or rehearse learning
- Project work
- Vocabulary learning
- Practice tasks
- Reading
- Flipped learning tasks, where students prepare at home for classroom discussion and application tasks

How long should homework take?

The EEF research found that ‘there may be an optimum amount of homework of between one and two hours per school day, with effects diminishing as the time that learners spend on homework increases’.

Learners at the academy should spend no longer than two hours per day on homework. Homework will be set according to the homework timetable for each teaching group. Homework may not be set every week for every subject, if it is not meaningful and purposeful; learners will not receive more homework than is stated on the homework timetable.

Roles and responsibilities

The role of the learner

1. To listen to homework instructions in class.
2. To use Satchel to check instructions for the task, submission instructions and deadline dates.
3. To ensure homework is completed and handed in to meet the deadline.
4. To attempt all work to the best of their ability.
5. To inform the class teacher of any difficulties and seek out support where necessary.

The role of the class teacher

1. To set homework which is meaningful and purposeful.
2. To give full and comprehensive instructions in class.
3. To record these instructions on Satchel.
4. To set deadlines for completed work and communicate these via Satchel.
5. To give specific and timely feedback on homework where appropriate.
6. To provide help and support.
7. To ensure that learners have an adequate amount of time between the homework being set and the deadline to complete the work to a high standard. Homework should never be due the day after it was set.
8. To pay attention to the impact of homework on wellbeing and ensure that homework does not become overly burdensome on families.
9. To be aware that not all learners will have access to the same level of resources and support at home and make suitable adjustments for this.

10. To inform the HoF, tutor, Head of Key Stage and parents, as appropriate, when problems arise.

The role of the tutor

1. To support learners in managing their homework.
2. To support learners in using Satchel.
3. To communicate with class teacher, Head of Key Stage and parents, as appropriate, when problems arise.

The role of the HoF

1. To monitor and quality assure the frequency, quality and quantity of homework set in their curriculum area.
2. To advise teachers of appropriate and meaningful homework tasks.
3. To liaise with other HoF to ensure that homework across the curriculum areas is manageable and not overly burdensome.

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/teaching-learning-toolkit/homework-secondary/>

Appendix

Self quizzing

One homework, which will be set for all students, across all subjects, is self-quizzing. This is where students use resources (such as Knowledge Organisers), to practice retrieving knowledge of facts, concepts and processes from memory. Students can rehearse and reinforce core knowledge by self-quizzing what they 'know, remember, understand and can do'. This will ensure they are fluent in the core building blocks of the curriculum, which are essential to succeed. This model of homework allows us to support students' learning in the long term. Students can practice self-quizzing in their exercise books or on lined paper, depending on what has been set by their teacher.

Teachers will support student self-quizzing by modelling what it looks like in each subject. They may use some generic self-quizzing techniques, which are shown in these [teacher walk through videos](#). In these [walk through videos](#), teachers model how to self-quiz through a variety of tasks such as, making flashcards, using the look - cover - write - check approach and creating mind-maps, which you can also refer to when supporting your child with their self-quizzing homework.