



Homework Policy

Homework Policy

1.0 Statement of Policy

- 1.1 The Academy believes that homework is more likely to be approached positively when students feel that the demands on them are realistic, consistent across the curriculum and worthwhile in terms of what they are learning. The Academy is committed to ensuring that both staff and students use homework effectively with clear guidelines about what is appropriate, how much is expected and when it is to be set.
- 1.2 Homework will be set regularly and students will be encouraged to establish good homework habits from the beginning of their school career. Assessment of homework will form an important part of the overall assessment policy procedures.
- 1.3 'Homework' is a generalised term which can take the form of revision, intervention, additional clubs to support learning in school, or tasks to complete at home.
- 1.4 The aims are to:
- Encourage parents/carers to become involved in their children's work through understanding and discussing homework tasks
 - To give all students the opportunity to consolidate and extend what they have learned in the Academy and to make best use of an effective way of improving learning
 - To help students to plan their time and develop confidence in learning
 - To help students develop independent learning skills, to use now and in their future life
 - To inform parents/carers about their children's learning and the approaches and techniques used in the Academy
 - To make homework an integral and planned part of every scheme of work

2.0 Other Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following:

- Assessment, Recording and Reporting Policy

3.0 Allocation of homework

- 3.1 Homework helps raise achievement through the consolidation and reinforcement of skills and knowledge gained during lesson time. Research has shown that 5 years of homework is equivalent to an additional year at school (source:DFE)
- 3.2 Students will receive one piece of homework from each subject area on a weekly basis. Subjects will provide an opportunity for a range of additional learning tasks
- 3.3 In Key Stage 3, homework activities should take approximately **15-30 minutes**. In Key Stage 4 each subject will set approximately **1 hour** of homework each week. In the approach to exams this will inevitably increase.

- 3.4 Students will be asked to record homework in their planners and in some cases will receive homework reminder emails. Homework may be set via a range of different mediums (e.g. research, exam preparation, worksheets).
- 3.5 Parents/Carers are asked to support their son/daughter and encourage them to complete homework activities on time.
- 3.6 Students will gain positive rewards for completion of extended learning/ homework. Similarly, negative behavior points will be recorded for non-completion.

4.0 Variety of homework

- 4.1 Staff must set homework which is varied in content, sufficiently differentiated and which is seen by students as being of value. While written tasks are often useful, many tasks are not written, e.g. reading from a textbook, locating a resource in the Library, collecting some materials or equipment for practical work, surveys of opinion, learning vocabulary and specific tasks for group work within the independent learning schemes.
- 4.2 Homework should not penalise students who do not work as quickly as other students for reasons related to individual needs, nor should it result in higher ability students receiving less homework than other students.

5.0 Set and marked regularly

In order to emphasise the contribution homework makes to learning, homework must be set in every subject area and where appropriate, promptly and constructively marked.

6.0 Use of the Academic diary

- 6.1 All students have an academic diary/planner in which they note down the homework that is set for each subject. The teacher must ensure that all students do this. The diary is signed by the parent/carer(s) and form tutor each week. Where a homework is not completed, the teacher can mark a red 'H' in the diary to indicate this to parents/carers and form tutor. A comment can also be made on the Academy Marking Template. Positive and negative points are recorded if it is or is not completed

The Parent/Carer-Student-Academy contract highlights the need for parents/carers to support their child's education, through assisting in homework and providing homework facilities at home.

7.0 Homework timetable

Each subject will set one piece of homework each week in order to further enhance the quality of learning. It is expected that every lesson will set some form of extended learning or follow up task to be completed within a timeframe.

8.0 Help in difficulty

Staff must encourage students to return for help if they seem to be spending excessive amounts of time on homework. The Academy is committed to ensuring that students have access to ICT, on-line platforms and internet at breaks and after school in order to assist the completion of tasks.

9.0 Ensuring it happens

- a. Curriculum Directors have responsibility for making sure that teachers within their department know, understand and implement this policy.
- b. Students are expected to complete homework to a good level.
- c. Staff will record any non-completion of homework via the behaviour log. Sanctions will be put in place for students who choose not to complete homework.
- d. Staff will also reward students for completion of homework via the behaviour log.

10.0 The nature of homework

No one form of homework is prescribed and, as such, homework may take many forms, taking into account the nature of the subject and the ages and abilities of the students. The Academy has subscribed to MyMaths to enable a variety of IT rich tasks to be chosen. Some of the forms homework may take will include:

- specially prepared homework tasks that extend class work
- learning homework
- research assignments
- practical exercises
- longer term assignments/projects/coursework

11.0 Marking of homework

Staff are expected to mark homework regularly in accordance with the school assessment policy.

This Policy will be reviewed every two years.