



## Home Learning Policy 2017/18

### Introduction

The following Home Learning Policy replaces the previous Homework Policy. The aim of Home Learning (sometimes referred to as Pre--Learning) is for the student to be fully prepared for the subject knowledge, content and learning that will be taking part in the following lesson. This will enable students and staff to maximise the quality of learning, teaching and student progress during directed lesson time.

Students should (as per the Home Learning timetable) be provided with regular, relevant, challenging and engaging Home Learning tasks. Home Learning tasks should be clearly planned and available to students at the beginning of the unit of study through the Departmental schemes of work.

### Why is homework important?

- If a student completes an hour's Home Learning per night for five years ... it is the equivalent of an extra school year.
- It can help students to make more rapid progress in learning.
- It can allow students to develop the practice of independent learning. This way of working is vital in the later stages of secondary education and after.
- It can allow valuable practice of skills learned in the classroom.
- It gives the most enthusiastic students the opportunity to apply their passion and gain a deeper insight into the subject.
- It can allow students to use materials and other sources of information that are not always available in the classroom such as the Internet, TV documentaries, and news reports.
- It can involve parents and others in the students' work for their mutual benefit.
- It can give opportunities for long--term research, enquiries and other work.
- It can form an important part of the student's notes – in preparation for the next lesson.
- It gives students valuable experience of working to deadlines.

### The role of the Student

- Record Home Learning tasks in their planners and ensure their understanding of the tasks;
- Demonstrate a commitment to spending an allocated time doing the tasks set;
- Complete all work set to the best of their ability;
- Present work appropriately;
- Hand the work in on time.

### The role of the teacher

- Set regular Home learning tasks according to the Home Learning timetables.
- Ensure the students record the tasks set in their planner;
- Be careful to ensure that adequate time is given to complete the Home Learning, which allows students to seek help/ assistance before the deadline if required;;
- Avoid overloading the Years 12 and 13 students by regularly liaising with the other teacher sharing the class;

- Record any Home Learning related issues appropriately and discuss these with the students and the Head of Department;

### **The Role of the Parent**

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which students can do their Home Learning or help students attend other places where work can be done, such as the Library.
- Make it clear to students that you value Home Learning, and support the Academy in explaining how it can help them make progress;
- Encourage students and praise them when they have completed work;
- Expect deadlines to be met and check that they are;
- Check that tasks have been set in line with the Home Learning timetable;
- Sign the planner once a week;
- Inform the academy if an issue arises.

### **Allocation**

**Years 7-9:** Home learning is set once per week for each subject. Suitable time will be allocated to ensure that students have time to complete the task to the best of their ability, without having an excessive workload on any one night. Each task should take between 30-45 minutes per subject

**10 and 11:** Home learning is set once per week for each subject. Suitable time will be allocated to ensure that students have time to complete the task to the best of their ability, without having an excessive workload on any one night. Each task should take between 45-60 minutes per subject and will be set to meet the needs of the course. Some tasks may be set as project based activities, to be completed over a number of weeks. All homework set will have a deadline for which it is to be completed.

**Years 12 and 13:** The students are not given specific timings but teaching staff are expected to set work on a regular basis for their teaching groups. The guideline is an extra hour of Home Learning and independent learning for every taught hour.