

2024/25 Homework Policy

What works?

Tom Sherrington sums up John Hattie's research:

*'...the highest effects in secondary are associated with rote learning, practice or rehearsal of subject matter; more task-orientated homework has higher effects than deep learning and problem solving. Overall, the more complex, open-ended and unstructured tasks are, the lower the effect sizes. **Short, frequent homework closely monitored by teachers has more impact than their converse forms...***

The more specific and precise the task is, the more likely it is to make an impact for all learners. Homework that is more complex is more appropriate for able and older students.

KS3 – Y7 to Y9

At KS3, typical homeworks might include self quizzing, revising for short tests, use of online learning platforms and short tasks that can be self assessed in the lesson to help minimise teacher workload.

Subject	Time allocated
English, Maths, Science and MFL	30 minutes per subject per week
History, Geography,	30 minutes per fortnight
Art, DT, RE, PE, Drama, Music, Photography, Media, Business	One homework per half term. This is in addition to the setting of the termly KO quiz. Tasks will be 'specific and precise' in line with the guidance above. For example: learning key vocabulary; completing online questions and structured revision tasks

To ensure students at KS3 do not experience a glut of homework, Departments that set one homework per half term will give students a two week completion deadline.

Students at KS3 will also be required to read for an hour a week. This will be monitored by the English Department.

KS4

Subjects should set approximately 15 minutes per lesson per week. This should come to approximately a total of 7.5 hours per week for KS4 subjects under the 6 period day.

'Minutes per lesson/week' is a guideline. It is at the teacher's discretion whether to set an extended piece of homework or spread work over several smaller tasks.

For example, English homework in Y11 may not be set every lesson but may be combined into one longer writing task - a 45 minute past paper question for example.

KS5

Students in Y12 and Y13 should receive an hour and 15 minutes of homework per lesson. ***This means that a double period should generate 2 and a half hours of homework.***

Deadlines

Staff will give students at least two evenings to complete homework which means that hand in will not be set for the next day. Submission deadlines will always be set on school days.

Marking and assessment of homework

This policy recognises that homework may take many different forms across subjects: research, revision, problem solving and extended writing. While portfolios of work should contain evidence that homework is completed regularly, to reduce workload teachers may wish to explore:

- homework being self assessed
- opportunities for students to complete self marking homework set using internet platforms
- use of low stakes testing to assess the effectiveness of revision and retention work

Teachers are not expected to mark all homework. They should mark work according to the established assessments that take place in their scheme of learning.

Homework sanctions

KS3 Y7-9

Teachers will log a negative on Arbor where a student fails to submit homework. 3 Arbor negatives across subjects will result in a detention.

KS4 Y10 and 11

Students receive a one hour DT for missed homework.

KS5 Y12 and 13

Students will receive a homework negative every time that a homework is not completed.

When the teacher feels that deadlines are not being met with the required regularity, homework detention can be set through Arbor.

Where students fall behind with coursework and ATL is poor, staff will identify areas for development on the Sixth Form academic support programme, monitor student progress, inform parents and seek support of the year team.