



HOMEWORK POLICY

Reviewed: Senior Leadership Team – Summer 2022

Next Review: Summer Term 2023

Homework Policy

Policy Purpose

- To ensure a consistent approach to homework throughout the whole school
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children have a clear understanding regarding expectations for homework
- To establish how homework will be organised across the school's Learning Pathways
- To identify the roles and responsibilities of those involved

Definition of Homework

Homework is a supported or independent task undertaken outside of curriculum time which reinforces, extends or enriches current learning.

Rationale for Homework

Homework:

- Provides opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's learning
- Enables children to practise and consolidate skills
- Broadens the context of learning and provides enrichment and extension
- Enables children to take responsibility for their own learning, to become independent learners and to develop perseverance
- Allow parents, where possible, to gain a greater understanding of their child's learning

Policy Principles

The homework policy will be co-ordinated by the Pathways Leads.

Multiple approaches will be used to ensure that parents and children are aware of homework expectations and organisation. These may include: parents meetings, Key Stage transition meetings, letters home, homework planners, Pathways guides.

There are some children for whom homework will not be appropriate i.e. children who are unable to take an active part in independent learning for cognitive, medical, safeguarding or emotional reasons. These children will be determined by the Pathways Leads in liaison with parents.

Curriculum Pathways

Homework will be tailored to the needs of each individual within each of the Pathways: formal, semi-formal, semi-explore and pre-formal.

On the formal pathway:

- Homework is set for learners to help them understand that learning goes beyond school and learnt skills can be used in the real world.
- Whilst learners are encouraged to complete homework, it is not compulsory.
- Each class in the formal curriculum will have one piece of homework set on a weekly basis. Whilst learners are encouraged to complete homework, it is not compulsory.
- At KS3 and KS4, there is at least one homework activity set for each of English, Maths, Science and ICT each half term, with the remainder based around their other curriculum areas.
- At KS5, there is at least one homework activity set for each of English, Maths and ICT each half term, with the remainder based around their other curriculum areas.
- Homework will be tailored towards learner outcomes and differentiated to the needs of the individual.
- Activities set should have an expected completion time of 20 minutes and should be marked/feedback given in line with the Marking and Feedback Policy.
- A reading book will be available to all to complement our phonics/literacy programme.

On the semi-formal and semi-explore pathways:

- Homework is set for learners to help them understand that learning goes beyond school and learnt skills can be used in the real world.
- Homework will be set for those higher-level semi-formal learners that homework may benefit or when parents request it
- Whilst learners are encouraged to complete homework, it is not compulsory.
- At KS3, KS4 and KS5 there will be at least one homework activity set each half term for each of:
 - functional literacy and function maths (for higher learners)
 - communication and problem-solving (for other learners)
- Homework set will be tailored towards learner progress and differentiated to the needs of the individual.
- Activities set should have an expected completion time of 20 minutes.
- A reading book/phonics/See and Learn will also be available to all to complement the phonics/literacy programme.

On the pre-formal pathway:

Home learning tasks are set when appropriate, not on a regular basis.

On the pre-formal pathway we enjoy working alongside parents to ensure we are personalising the learner's work both at home and school. Parents can help to personalise their child's learning by:

- Working with their child on the same learning targets (shared on Evidence for Learning) at home as in school.
- Using home/school communication diaries to share information regarding their child's range of experience, new interests or learning development. (Teachers will also share thematic topics for each term, together with home-learning experiences that can be done at home.)
- Promoting the involvement of their child in contextualized learning at home (including being a part of cooking and shopping tasks).

Organisation of Homework

- Homework allocations for each subject will be made clear at the start of the year
- Homework will be given out a week in advance
- There will be a weekly homework club in school. This will support learners who may otherwise find the homework challenging
- There will be a clear system for monitoring the completion and return of homework
- There will be regular feedback and praise for completed work
- Concerns will be handled by pastoral staff and then referred to the Pathway leads

The role of the school

The school will:

- Provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework
- Ensure this policy is fully and consistently followed
- Provide support for parents with information about homework
- Provide support for learners by running a homework club

The role of the teacher

The teacher/s will:

- Plan and set a programme of homework that is appropriate to the needs of the learner
 - Learning intentions will be clear and tasks will be appropriately differentiated and will support the topics being taught
- Ensure all learners understand the homework they have been given
- Mark and give feedback about homework
- Be available to talk to parents and learners about homework
- Inform parents if there is a problem regarding homework