

## **HOMEWORK POLICY** **(Senior School)**

(This document is available on the school website or on request)

*Reviewed November 2017*

### **AIMS OF HOMEWORK**

Homework is that part of the curriculum, which supports learning and consolidates and refines class work. It enables teachers to evaluate the learning process. It helps pupils to develop the following skills:

- Self-discipline
- Time management
- Independent working
- Study of other resource material, for example IT, newspapers library, T.V., information from parents.
- Partial responsibility for own learning

Effective homework helps to improve a pupil's final achievement, for example in public examinations.

### **TYPES OF HOMEWORK**

There is a variety of styles of homework, but normally it will arise out of the work done in class (at some point). It may be:

- A piece of written work
- Learning some material
- Revision for a test as directed by the teacher

It could also take the form of extended/open-ended work:

- Research from library material (IT, CD ROM, books etc.)
- Practical work (for example, measurement)
- Project work (coursework, preparation for controlled assessment)
- Listening work (for example in language or music)
- Reading/watching TV

### **HOMEWORK DIARIES**

Years 7 – 11 are issued with diaries:

- To help pupils log the homework given and the date it is required
- To allow parents to check that homework has been set and completed

It is intended that parents and Form Tutor sign the diary regularly.

It may be useful for Sixth Formers to use such a diary – some do.

## **THE ROLE OF PARENTS**

Parents have an important supportive role in the partnership between school and home. For example, monitoring the pupil's progress and supporting the instructions of the subject teacher are beneficial.

By definition, homework should be done at home, although from time to time other commitments will require alternative suitable arrangements e.g. the school library. To improve effectiveness, the pupil should be provided with a suitable location and an atmosphere conducive to undisturbed study.

It is intended that homework should be done by the pupil, though collaboration between pupils is not excluded. There will be occasions when suitable assistance by parents will enable the pupil to complete a piece of homework, but if this assistance becomes frequent or prolonged, the subject teacher should be contacted. Pupils experiencing difficulties with any piece of work are actively encouraged to consult subject teachers.

## **TIMING AND REGULARITY**

Homework will be set on a regular basis in all subjects. The homework timetable to each pupil is published at the start of the school year and a copy is taken home by the pupil and is available via the parent portal. It is expected that pupils will spend the following amounts of time approximately per night on homework:

Year 7	1 hour
Year 8	1 hr 20 mins
Year 9	1 hr 40 mins
Year 10 and 11	2 hours

Some homework or coursework may be set specifically to be done during school holidays, for example the reading of a book, an extended piece of work or coursework, and pupils approaching public or school examinations will be expected to use holidays for revision. Guidance will be given on appropriate amounts of time to be spent on this.

## **MARKING**

Homework will be collected on a regular basis, marked and handed back during the next lesson wherever possible. Marking is carried out according to Department policy which is made available to all students and in line with our whole-school approach which is printed in the homework diary. Marking will indicate areas to improve upon as well as attainment.

There will be a mark or grade together with written or verbal comments when appropriate. Homework may contain either written corrections by the teacher, or these may be inserted later by the pupil following discussion, if appropriate.

Homework is an integral part of the evaluation of a pupil's progress, along with classwork and tests.

## **DIFFICULTIES WITH HOMEWORK**

If a pupil has difficulty with a piece of homework, this should be discussed with the subject teacher in the first instance. If the difficulties persist, advice should be sought from the Form Tutor.

## **UNSATISFACTORY HOMEWORK**

If any aspect of homework is regarded as unsatisfactory, this will be dealt with by the subject teacher in the first instance and will be reflected in assessments and subject reports. If this persists, the matter will be referred to the Form Tutor and the Head of Year.

## **SIXTH FORM**

This document should be read in conjunction with the Sixth Form Handbook. It is expected that approximately three hours per day will be spent on supplementary study.