

Ashfield School



HOMework POLICY

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1.0 Principles - Homework

Homework is any work or activity which students are asked to do outside lesson time either on their own or with parents or carers.

The purpose of homework

- To encourage students to develop the confidence and self-discipline to work on their own, an essential skill for adult life.
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding.
- To extend school learning, for example through additional reading.
- To enable students to devote time to particular demands such as exam preparation or project work.
- To support the home/school relationship.

Homework should not prevent students from participating in activities after school such as sport, music or clubs of any kind.

1.1 The amount of homework

The school does not have a fixed homework timetable with time allocated for different subjects on different evenings. Students will need to learn to manage their time so that they do some homework each evening. Teachers will not set homework to be completed for the next day, but will give students at least two days to complete the homework. The time devoted to homework should increase as the student progresses through the school.

Students in Years 7-9 should have on average one homework per week for English, Maths, Science, Humanities and Modern Foreign Languages, which should take a maximum of 30 minutes to complete.

In the case of practical subjects such as Technology, Art, Music and Drama, homework will be set when appropriate to their current project as a minimum once every two weeks.

In ICT, homework will be set on a fortnightly basis.

There will usually be no homework for Personal Development Education (PDE) and PE in KS3.

Students in Year 10-11 should have between a 45 minutes and an hour per subject, per week.

Students in Years 12 and 13 are expected to devote approximately four hours per week outside lessons to each subject. Students are encouraged in addition, to read as widely as possible around their chosen subjects to broaden their knowledge.

Homework will be differentiated where necessary to take into account individual needs.

1.2 Types of homework

Homework might include such things as:

1. Writing assignments.
2. Learning assignments.
3. Preparing an oral presentation.
4. Reading in preparation for a lesson.
5. Finding out information/researching a project.
6. VLE and Myworks

It is important that students should have frequent and increasing opportunities to develop and consolidate their competencies as independent learners.

1.3 Organisation of homework

The school uses Show my homework to set homework for students. This can be accessed via the internet.

www.showmyhomework.co.uk

<https://ashfieldschool.showmyhomework.co.uk/school/homeworks/calendar>

If students do not have access to the internet they will be provided with a planner by the school in order to note down homework and will have access to IT after school and during social times.

1.4 Non-completion of homework

The successful operation of a homework policy depends upon effective procedures for chasing up non-completion. Too much class time can be wasted in dealing with students who have not done their homework.

When homework has not been done, appropriate action will be taken by the subject teacher with support from their faculty. This could include a breaktime, lunchtime or an after-school detention. Parents/carers should receive twenty-four hours notice in writing, via their child, of the after-school detention so they can make arrangements for their child to get home safely. The after-school detention will last no longer than one hour. The tutor should be informed of all detentions given by the class teacher.

- Time should be allocated during lessons to ensure that homework is written up in diaries. Best practice would suggest that it is copied directly from the board.

1.5 School's responsibilities

The subject teacher is responsible for setting appropriate homework and marking it regularly.

In Years 7-9 homework should be set to ensure that there is more than one night in which to do it. This allows students to plan their time, participate in out of school activities if they wish, and still be able to do their homework. Heads of Faculty are responsible for ensuring that all teachers in their department are setting appropriate homework regularly and marking it. ***This should be checked regularly as part of the faculty QA process.***

1.6 Parents'/Carers' role in homework

- Parents/carers should support students with their homework but accept that their role will become less and less important as students become more responsible and independent.
- Parents/carers should try and provide a reasonable place where students can work or encourage them to make use of the school's facilities.
- Parents/carers should encourage students to meet homework deadlines.
- If parents/carers feel that insufficient or too much homework is being set, they should contact the tutor or subject teacher who will investigate the situation.
- Parents/carers should make it clear to students that they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help them to progress.
- Parents/carers should encourage students and praise them when homework is completed.

1.8 Quality Assurance of Homework Setting and Marking

Heads of Faculty

Quality assurance will be conducted by Heads of Faculty supported by their line manager and members of the faculty.

Each Key Stage will be assessed every year, with one Key Stage per term.

The quality assurance will establish whether homework has been

- a) Frequently set
- b) Marked

Quality assurance will take the form of student interviews, learning walks and work samples.

Heads of Faculty and Leadership Team

Students will be interviewed as part of quality assurance and the frequency and quality of homework will be evaluated.

1.9 Marking of Homework

Marking of homework will be conducted in line with school and faculty marking policies.

General Data Protection Regulation

All data within this policy will be processed in line with the requirements and protections set out in the General Data Protection Regulation.