

Homework Policy

Last reviewed: December 2016

Next review: December 2016

Rationale

Ark William Parker supports the view that independent learning and homework makes a valuable contribution to the education and development of children.

Core Subjects English, Maths and Science will set homework once a week. Tasks set will be based on improving classwork and will link to an improvement question or point the teacher has given via feedback to the student.

Foundation Subjects at KS3 will set homework once a fortnight in line with the frequency at which they see pupils.

Aims

The purpose of homework is to:

- Raise the standard of achievement.
- Provide opportunities for students to work independently and to take responsibility for organising their work.
- Help students recognise the link between good study habits and higher standards of achievement with the aim of developing good study habits for their lives.
- Check that students have understood class work.
- Consolidate or extend work covered in school.
- Prepare for future lessons.
- Give time for more extensive coverage of the curriculum, through integrated planning of class work and homework.
- Help parents/carers understand what their children are learning in school and to encourage them to participate in that learning.

Roles and Responsibilities

Heads of Department/Subject should:

- Ensure that schemes of work include homework and independent learning opportunities
- Monitor the setting of tasks within their subject(s) area.

Teachers should:

- Plan independent homework as an integral part of the curriculum.
- Set tasks that can be completed within the allocated time and that are as far as possible matched to the abilities of students.
- Set independent learning and homework tasks that are varied in type encouraging students to use the school's VLE / Intranet, library, parents etc.
- Position the setting of independent learning and homework so that it is set within the context of the topic being studied.
- Ensure that extended independent learning and homework/coursework (usually in KS4 and 5) are monitored weekly.
- Set independent learning and homework with an increased emphasis on research and independent study as students move from Y9 to Y13.
- Make sure that students understand what the independent learning and homework is and that they copy it down correctly in their planners.
- Give a reasonable time for its completion (a week unless otherwise stated).
- Ensure that work is marked in accordance with the school and departmental protocol.



- Provide feedback to students on their progress.
- Year 10 and 11 students are expected to spend between 40 – 60 minutes per subject per week and Year 12 and 13 students are expected to spend between 3 – 5 hours per subject per week.

Key stages Time allocation per week

- KS3 30 mins per subject
- KS4 1 hour per subject
- KS5 5 hours per subject

Monitoring and Evaluation

- All students will have a planner, which will be monitored weekly by both the Form Tutor and Parents/carers. This will be monitored by Head of Year.
- Heads of Department/Subject will monitor independent learning and homework through line management meetings with their Line Manager and discuss this agenda regularly in departmental meetings.