

## Homework Guidance 2016-2017

### ***Purpose of homework at KS3 & KS4***

1. To encourage students to develop the skills, confidence and resilience needed to study effectively on their own. This is vital given the importance of encouraging students to have a growth mindset in their approach to studies. There is an expectation that all students will complete homework set.
2. Consolidating and reinforcing the skills and understanding developed in school.
3. Maintaining the involvement of parents/carers in students' learning and keeping them informed about work being carried out in school.
4. Extending the time available for study.
5. Creating opportunities for innovative homework practices that reflect developments in education, for example, the use of ICT and the internet.

### ***Guidelines***

*It is vital that there is a regular programme of homework so that students, parents/carers and teachers know what the expectations are:*

#### ***Key Stage 3***

- *Maths, English, Science (between 1 hour and 2 hours per fortnight).*
- *Art, Music, D&T, MFL, History, Geography, Computing, RE (between ½ hour and 1 hour per fortnight or an extended piece of work over a period of time).*

#### ***Key Stage 4***

- *Maths, English, Science (between 2 hours and 4 hours per fortnight).*
- *Option subjects and RE (between 1 hour and 2 hours per fortnight).*

#### ***General***

- Homework set overnight for the next day should be avoided.
- Homework must be logged in Go4Schools and resources made available through the school website/Go4Schools where possible. Access to the internet for completion of homework is available in school through homework club. Homework club runs every school night from 3pm – 4pm (-3.45pm Friday).
- Where students struggle to complete homework it is their responsibility to seek out assistance from the teacher well in advance of the due date.

### **Advice to Parents/Carers**

The support of parents/carers is essential. You can assist in many ways, for example, helping your child at home, monitoring homework and providing encouragement.

You can assist by:

- Logging into Go4Schools to check what homework has been set and when it is due.
- Checking your child's planner to ensure they are recording homework regularly.
- Helping your child organise their time so that homework is not left until the last minute or forgotten.
- Ensuring that your child has a suitable quiet place to complete their homework at home or utilises the opportunities to complete homework at school (e.g. homework club)
- Taking an active interest in your child's homework.
- Signing your child's planner weekly to confirm that all homework is complete.

### **Guidance to Staff**

- Homework should have a clear objective, be linked to Programmes of Study and planned (not just completing class work).
- All homework must be logged on Go4Schools.
- As in the classroom, it is important that teachers have high expectations of all students' homework and use praise for work that is done well.
- In exceptional circumstances a student may not complete homework due to individual circumstances (e.g. young carer). Discussions should take place to determine why homework is not being completed with the student and parents/carers as appropriate.
- Suitable homework tasks could include:
  - Research
  - Report writing
  - Designing
  - Essay writing
  - Drafting
  - Extended tasks
  - Mini projects
  - Preparations for practical work
  - Practice exam questions
  - Consolidation of class work
  - Reading
  - Revision
  - Work set via websites
- Students should receive feedback from teachers. Work should be marked promptly, whether this is teacher marked or via peer/self-marking during lessons.

### **Monitoring Homework**

Homework should be monitored as part of Quality Assurance. This could take place as part of work scrutiny by Subject Leaders/Deputy Subject Leader/Line Managers each half term.

Subject teachers and form teachers should monitor homework throughout the school year for individual students who are causing concern. These students should be referred to Subject Leader / SPCs as necessary.

*Guidance to be reviewed June 2018 by Curriculum Deputy*