EXTENDED LEARNING POLICY



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ATTACHED COMMITTEE:	Curriculum

Adopted:	March 2013
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Next Review Date:	September 2024

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Date: September 2022	Date: September 2022
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RATIONALE

Five hours of lessons, plus the learning attached to assemblies and other activities, makes for a long day at school. Therefore we believe that:

- Homework without a clear learning outcome/purpose is in danger of taking up a students' free time unfairly
- Children need a childhood and the amount of homework set should be proportionate to their stage of schooling
- We hope and expect our students to engage in a wide range of extra-curricular activities within school life, and outside of school, and homework should not be a barrier to a happy, well-balanced, active childhood
- Students on courses leading to examinations can expect significantly more homework, as they develop the skills to study independently in preparation for the examinations themselves

"Good" homework develops the school curriculum and focuses on extending and improving the depth in students learning.

AIMS / PURPOSE OF HOMEWORK

- To enrich students' classroom learning and to give teachers an additional means to assess the learning of their students
- To allow all students to develop their individual capabilities
- To develop the practice of independent study, time management, perseverance and selfdiscipline as well as a love of learning
- To provide opportunities for family learning involving parents and other adults
- To deepen, extend or consolidate the learning from the classroom

KEY STAGE 3 HOMEWORK (Years 7, 8 and most of year 9)

- Homework is not set on an ad hoc basis, eg to finish a piece of work started in class
- Homework is always set according to a schedule, published by each subject in the schemes of learning (and collated to a single schedule by the Deputy Headteacher)
- Homework is rewarded using the rewards system and is celebrated with praise and other measures, such as being displayed
- Failing to complete homework is noted on Go4Schools with "B1 failure to complete homework" and "B2 ongoing failure to complete homework"
- Sanctions (eg detentions) are issued to students with the sole purpose of ensuring that they complete their homework

KEY STAGE 4 HOMEWORK (Term 6 of Year 9, Years 10 and 11)

- Students on courses leading to external assessments have a greater need to utilise homework, with the intended benefits as outlined above.
- There will be more homework, as students prepare for examinations.
- Therefore it will be set according to the homework schedule, coordinated between subjects and communicated to parents
- Homework will be rewarded, using the rewards policy, as above
- Failure to complete homework will be recorded, as above
- Department detentions may be issued to students not completing homework, with the sole purpose of supervising them in completing it

Guidelines and Suggested Strategies:

As teachers, we must ensure that homework:

- Is planned, meaningful, relevant, engaging and differentiated
- Enhances the classroom learning
- Is given appropriate time scales for completion
- Is assessed (teacher, group, peer or self) and this assessment is demonstrably responded to
- Is rewarded
- Is set via the Google Classroom

Best Practice:

- Homework is set near the beginning of the lesson so that it does not appear as a "bolt on activity" and so that students have plenty of time to write it down and ask any questions they may have
- Homework is directly linked to the learning in the lesson
- Homework assessed after completion and improvement feedback are responded to by the student
- There are many other ways of assessing homework than teacher marking!

A note on "finishing work":

Finishing off work may be an option for extended projects or coursework pieces but should not be the norm as students who work quickly in lessons are not challenged by this type of homework task.

Responsibilities / Monitoring and Evaluation:

Subject Teachers are responsible for:

- Setting homework in line with their subjects' schemes of learning, and for recording the tasks on the Google Classroom
- Ensuring that completed homework is rewarded in line with school policy
- Ensuring that homework that has not been completed is recorded (KS3) and followed up with appropriate action to ensure that the student completes it (KS4)
- Giving students time in lessons to respond to their feedback (with corrections/improvement) and insisting that this is done
- Using a subject report as a means of monitoring students who are not engaging in their learning, in line with expectations
- Using the same report to communicate the teacher's concerns with home

Curriculum Leaders are responsible for:

- Supporting and monitoring the teachers in their teams with all aspects of homework
- Upholding a clear expectation as to when KS3 homework is set, and publishing this on the schemes of learning
- Supporting teachers in ensuring that sanctions make sure that homework is successfully completed
- Monitoring that all homework set is challenging for All, and has a positive impact

Parents have a key role to play in supporting their child by:

- Monitoring homework set on Google Classroom
- Monitoring the schools' recording of homework on Go4Schools
- Helping and encouraging their child to complete homework to the best of their ability and by the deadline
- Liaising with tutors or subject teachers if a query arises to do with homework

Students are responsible for:

- carefully reviewing the work set for them on Google Classroom and asking their teachers for any further advice or clarification
- completing the homework to the best of their ability
- submitting the homework at the requested time or talking with their teachers if they need an extension
- reflecting and acting upon the feedback received from their subject teachers.

NON COMPLETION OF HOMEWORK

Our ambition is to celebrate the completion of homework, with rewards

There may be times when homework is not completed and students are not available to offer a reason. Class teachers must use all their skill to work with the students to ensure that homework is completed and on time.

Homework not completed

- 1. Issue "B1 failure to complete homework", and agree with the student when the work will be completed by
- 2. Escalate to, "B2 ongoing failure to complete homework", and ask the student to attend, during a break or lunchtime, to complete their homework
- Escalate to, "B3 failed to attend B2 detention", which will be supervised by a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Clearly the expectation is that students complete homework during a detention
- 4. Further escalations are a serious issue and are the responsibility of The Senior Leadership Team and not the individual teacher