



WEST GRANTHAM

Church of England Secondary Academy

HOMEWORK POLICY

Review cycle:	Annual
Reviewed by:	Assistant Principal Teaching and Learning
Approved by:	Interim Executive Board

VERSION	DATE	AUTHOR	CHANGES
2	4 May 2023	Stevie Thornton	Added an additional section in Consequences that outlines the potential need for a 60-minute detention
3	14 th June 2024	Stevie Thornton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change of wording ClassCharts to MCAS under 'Consequences' Remove 'and timetable' by Homework frequency Under 'Homework frequency' please remove the first paragraph and add the following: The frequency of homework is at the discretion of the CTL for that specific subject. CTLs have created bespoke plans that support their curriculum and the students in their care in ensuring progress and development. It is the expectation that homework is set regularly and that rationale is explained to Line Managers whilst also tracked within faculties. If parents/carers wish to know individual stances on Homework, they are advised to contact the teacher of a subject directly who will be able to provide the required information. The homework timetable has been removed

Contents

Aims	2
Responsibilities	2
The Role of the Student:	2
The Role of the Class teacher:	2
The Role of Senior leader with responsibility for homework:	3
The Role of the Parent/Carer:	3
Consequences	3
Homework Support Process	3
Homework frequency and timetable	3

Aims

"Homework is not an optional extra, but an essential part of a good education". -1999 White Paper, Excellence in Schools

"The evidence shows that the impact of homework, on average, is five months additional progress." (The Education Endowment Foundation)

Homework is defined as work that is set to be done outside of the timetabled curriculum. It contains an element of independent study and is important not only in developing effective study techniques but also in raising student attainment.

Not all homework is done at home; in fact, for some students who find it hard to work at home, or for some tasks which may require resources (books, software, equipment) more readily available at school, it is necessary or desirable to carry out the task at school. Homework enhances student learning, improves achievement, and develops students' study skills and as such is an integral part of the curriculum. It requires careful planning and integration into the scheme of work of each curriculum area.

Homework is set to:

- Encourage pupils to develop effective study skills and time management techniques and the self-discipline needed to be lifelong learners.
- Consolidate, reinforce, and extend the material covered in lessons.
- Prepare students for new learning activities.
- Enhance opportunities for independent learning
- Involve parents and carers in pupil learning.
- Create channels for home-school dialogue

Therefore, homework at The West Grantham Secondary Academy meets at least one of these core principles:

- Embed - consolidate learning that has taken place in the classroom e.g. revision for assessment or learning key knowledge
- Practice - refine knowledge and procedures learnt in the classroom based on feedback from the teacher e.g. redrafting or improving work
- Extend - move learning beyond what has been achieved in the classroom e.g. adding breadth to existing knowledge
- Apply - use learning from the classroom to complete a specific task e.g. writing a practice exam question based on content covered in the lesson.
- Prepare - Look ahead to future learning e.g. researching a given topic prior to the lesson.

Responsibilities

The Role of the Student:

- To listen to all homework instructions, write this down in their planners and ensure comprehension
- To check with staff about expectations surrounding the due date.
- To attempt all work to the best of their ability.
- To inform the class teacher of any difficulties that arise.

The Role of the Class teacher:

- Set tasks which promote the acquisition of knowledge and understanding in subjects.
- Set tasks which have a clear criterion, are specific and do not disadvantage students (ie, by requiring access to a wide range of resources)
- Publish independent learning tasks in line with the prescribed amount and frequency.
- Ensure the submission of independent learning tasks is recorded and monitored through professional records.
- Moderate the submission of homework tasks and address non completion by identifying any barriers to non-completion.

- If all barriers have been removed and homework has not been completed on a regular basis (i.e. three consecutive occasions or repeatedly over a period), the class teacher should contact home through a phone call home and/or e-mail.
- Liaise with the Curriculum Team Leader (CTL) when non completion concerns continue. There must be evidence that the above has taken place before the CTL becomes involved.
- Praise, reward and encourage students who have a good work ethos and complete homework well

The Role of Senior leader with responsibility for homework:

- Ensure clear communication regarding the setting of homework to pupils, parents, and staff.
- Inform staff, students and parents of changes or additions to the homework timetable.
- Guide staff through Professional Development and research to the effective use of homework

The Role of the Parent/Carer:

- To support by helping to provide a quiet space to work where possible
- To support your child with organisation and time management.
- Help your child to establish a homework routine
- To use the planner to monitor the homework that your child is completing
- To offer support and guidance if necessary

Consequences

Students who do not complete homework by the agreed upon date and/or the member of staff does not believe the student has fulfilled their responsibility (see 'The Role of the Student') will be issued with a 30-minute detention. This could be increased to a 60-minute detention if the homework expected was given a longer date for completion and/or project-based work – this is at the discretion of the staff member.

It is not necessary for the member to contact home to discuss as parents/carers can access their information through Class Charts. If, however, there is repeat occasions of non-compliance, the member of staff will be encouraged to contact home to offer support and discuss next steps.

Homework Support Process

Homework may not be completed for a variety of reasons and not all are behaviour related for example:

- Lack of ability to manage time effectively
- Lack of ability to self-regulate
- Lack of a homework routine
- Lack of quiet study space
- Lack of necessary resources
- Lack of understanding of the value of independent study

Where homework is not completed, we aim to identify the reason for this and provide support rather than automatic sanctions. Support will seek to identify the barriers to homework completion and may include:

- Allocation of resources including hardware
- Allocation of a quiet study space at lunch time / end of the day
- Referral to a homework club
- Support with organisation
- Support with time management

Homework frequency and timetable

It is the expectation that no student will be set more than two pieces of homework daily.

The homework timetable, split between Week A and Week B, ensures that pupils can organise their time more effectively. For KS3 students, each independent learning task should take approximately 20 – 30 minutes. KS4 students should look to spend between 30-45 minutes on a piece of work but could take longer if the nature of the task dictates it.

Staff should allow students sufficient time for the homework to be completed and should not ask for homework to be completed for the next day.

Students are encouraged to complete additional proactive study that sits outside of the prescribed homework tasks. This is particularly important at KS4.