



WCESS POLICY	HOMEWORK POLICY
Governor Sub Committee	Education
Senior Leadership Team Lead	Deputy Headteacher - Curriculum
Date of Last Review	May 2018
Review Frequency	Every 3 years
Online	Yes

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

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

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 GCSE coursework or project work.
- To support the home/school relationship

The rationale for the homework policy at WCESS is to enable our students to extend and expand their education beyond the confines of the classroom. This helps our pupils develop scholarship and, in particular, their independent learning skills. Homework is any relevant task or activity selected by the teacher, to be completed outside curriculum contact time. While it will usually be done at home, it may also take the form of supported study/homework clubs.

Why is homework important?

Learning at home is an essential part of a good education. Regular homework is important.

- It gives students the opportunity to practice for themselves the tasks done in class and contributes towards improving a range of important skills
- It builds confidence and assists young people to personalise their learning. It allows children to work at a pace which suits them and their ability
- It provides the opportunity for students to extend their learning and undertake further independent research.

What should you expect?

The school has a homework timetable for each year with lessons allocated when specific subjects will set homework. Homework timetables can be found on the website and will be sent home via the school app to parents at the start of the academic year. 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.

Key Stage 3

Year 7-9 (per fortnightly cycle)

Homework is set in increasing amounts from year 7 which leads to:

20 minutes per subject in Year 7 (30mins in English and maths) rising to 30 minutes by the end of Year 9 for all subjects

A typical example might look like:s

Subject	Number of homeworks per fortnight
Maths	2
English	2
Science	2 (3 x shorter homeworks in year 9)
PSRE	1
Spanish	2
DT	2
ICT	1
Art	1
History	1
Geography	1
(Year 9 – Art/DT option)	1

A typical example:

Total in Year7: $11 \times 20 + 4 \times 30$ (Eng/Ma) = 340 minutes (average 34 minutes per school night)

Total in Year 9: $16 \times 30 = 480$ minutes (average 48 minutes per school night)

Some subjects do not always facilitate the setting of meaningful homework on every occasion. Therefore, dance, music, drama and PE set homework when appropriate to ensure that it is fully meaningful and linked to learning.

Key Stage 4

A typical year 11 homework timetable (per fortnightly cycle)

30 - 45 minutes for all subjects

Subject	Number of homeworks per fortnight
Maths	2
English	2
Science	2 (3 x for Triple Science)
History	2
Spanish	2
RE	2
2/3 x Option Subjects	2

For a double award science/2 option student:

Total = $16 \times 30-45$ minutes = 480 - 560 (average between 48 – 56 minutes per school night)

Key Stage 5

Year 12/13

Students in Years 12 and 13 are expected to devote approximately four hours per week outside lessons to each A-level/BTEC National subject, including 60 minutes of timetabled self-study work per subject. Students are encouraged in addition, to read as widely as possible around their chosen subjects to broaden their knowledge.

In the sixth form, homework will be differentiated where necessary to take into account individual needs.

Types of homework in the sixth form could 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.

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

Homework - general principles

Organisation of homework

All students have a planner which they should carry with them at all times to record their homework. Planners should be on desks at the start of every lesson. Tutors and parents/carers are asked to check and sign these on a weekly basis.

Non-completion of homework

When homework has not been completed, appropriate action will be taken by the teacher. This could include a break time or lunchtime detention (Phase 1) or for persistent non-completion of homework a Phase 2 sanction. The sanction will depend on the situation and/or student.

School's responsibilities

The subject teacher is responsible for setting appropriate homework according to the published timetable and marking it regularly. ***S/he should check that students are recording details of homework set in their planners.***

Subject Leader responsibilities

Subject leaders are responsible for ensuring that all teachers in their department are setting appropriate homework regularly and marking it. ***This should be checked as part of the tracking and monitoring processes within the subject area.***

SLT responsibilities

The senior Leadership Team will monitor the quality and setting of homework through half-termly QA systems and calendared homework monitoring periods.

Parents'/Carers' role in homework

Parents play a key role in the education of their children. Parents can provide a supportive environment in which the young person can develop the necessary study skills to move towards independent learning. Our homework policy takes account of parents as partners in learning.

- 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.
- 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.

Students' responsibilities

- Students should always carry their personal planner with them.
 - Students should get their planner out at the start of every lesson and it should be left on the desk.
 - Students should record the homework set even if they have additional worksheets.
 - Students should meet all homework deadlines.
 - If students are absent, they need to find out what work has been missed and catch up on it.
- Students should take a pride in doing their best and homework should be completed to the best of their ability.
- Problems with homework should be resolved before the deadline. If necessary, students should see the member of staff concerned for help.

Being away on the day that homework is set is not an excuse for not doing it, students are expected to complete any work that they have missed through absence.