

Homework Policy

Introduction

Taverham High School values homework as an integral part of the learning process. The setting of effective homework should help students develop good study habits and foster independent learning skills over time to help them reach their full potential. The amount and frequency of homework set should, however, ensure students have a positive school/life/family balance.

Purpose of Homework

The purpose of homework at Taverham High School is:

- To support classroom practice enabling students to extend their learning
- To provide opportunities for extended practice to deeply embed knowledge and skills
- To develop students' capacity for independent learning
- To provide further opportunities for differentiation so that individual learning needs can be met
- To provide opportunities for students to read and prepare for lessons in advance to deepen learning in the classroom
- To encourage skills such as self-reliance, time management and personal organisation
- To encourage the development of research and presentation skills
- To provide structured revision and preparation time for assessments and exams
- To promote the enjoyment of learning and enrich the breadth of the curriculum

Effectiveness of Homework

Effective homework should be integral to the learning process for each subject and should be well planned and structured for all students. Students should clearly understand the purpose the homework has in developing their learning and what is expected of them to effectively complete the task(s).

Purposeful, valid homework should be directly linked and detailed in the schemes of learning for each subject to ensure that it supports and extends learning from the classroom.

Homework should provide opportunities for extended practice, consolidation of learning and develop students' capacity for independent learning to maximise learning for students.

Individual learning needs should be met through the setting of effective homework with clear guidance, instructions and expectations for each homework being communicated with students.

Not all homework will be marked. It should be clear however, how the teacher will acknowledge its successful completion and impact on learning.

Frequency

The following guidance on the frequency and time allowance of homework provides a framework for subject areas to follow to create a consistent and balanced approach to the setting of homework for each year group:

Year Group	Recommended Guidance Time	Approx. time per night
7	30 mins per subject per fortnight	30 mins
8	30 mins per subject per fortnight	30 mins
9	45 mins per subject per fortnight	45 mins
10	60 mins per subject per fortnight	60 mins
11	60 mins per subject per fortnight	60 mins
Sixth Form	120 mins per subject per fortnight (students are also expected to complete 9 hours of independent per subject per fortnight. Guidance for this can be provided by the subject teacher.)	N/A

Overall, the homework set across subjects should equate to the approximate time per night spent completing homework in each year group. Some subjects may set less homework in Key Stage 3 due to their practical nature or due to the number of lessons they have. Longer pieces of homework will be set over an extended period of time to allow time for completion.

To allow students to rest and spend time with their families, students in key stage 3 will not be set homework over holiday periods. The exception to this will be GCSE preparation summer homework for Year 9 students.

Staff will endeavour to give a week for homework to be completed, if this is not possible due to timetable constraints an adequate amount of time should be provided to complete the homework.

Maximum guidance time will be attached to homework to help support the amount of time that should be spent on homework for its completion. Parents/carers can sign to acknowledge the time spent on homework if not completed in the recommended guidance time. If students require additional support with their homework, please contact the class teacher through the office email on our website.

Show My Homework

Show My Homework is an online management programme for the recording and setting of homework that staff, students and parents/carers can access. Show My Homework enhances the communication of homework as it enables staff to set homework online that can then be accessed by parents/carers and students with details of the homework, supporting documents and completion dates.

Show My Homework will provide the opportunity for students to manage their own homework effectively, developing time management and organisation skills for the successful completion of homework within the required timeframes.

All homework should be set using Show My Homework. Students and staff can access their Show My Homework account using their Office 365 log in details and parents/carers will be provided with a log in to access the homework set for their child.

An overview of homework set across the school is accessible using the Show My Homework link on the school website so that homework can still be accessed without a log in being required.

Further Guidance

- It is expected that all students will complete homework and meet the set deadline.
- The completion of homework to a high standard, for the individual needs of the student, can receive a positive from the staff member on Brom Com.
- If a student fails to complete homework, this will be dealt with by the subject teacher. The student will receive a negative on Brom Com and an appropriate sanction.
- If a parent/carer is concerned over any aspect of homework they are encouraged to contact the subject teacher initially, followed by the Head of Subject or Faculty. For questions concerning homework over a number of subjects then contacting the Head of Year or Assistant Head Teacher in charge of Teaching and Learning is advised. Contact details can be found via the website.
- Homework will be monitored by Heads of Subject, Heads of Faculty and the Senior Leadership Team as part of our on-going teaching and learning evaluations and quality assurance measures.
- Annual evaluations of homework will be completed in January/February by staff members, parents/carers and students to assess the overall effectiveness of homework.
- Homework will also be evaluated through our Teaching and Learning Evaluation Schedule.

Homework Club

Taverham High School offers a Homework Club as we recognise that some students may find it hard to work at home or that some tasks may require resources (books, software, equipment) more readily available at school. Homework club is available to all students and is located in the Sixth Form Study Centre from 3.00 pm until 4.30 pm everyday except Fridays. Homework Club is supported by the Librarian and a Teaching Assistant with light refreshments being available as well. The Sixth Form Study Centre provides access to computers and printers for students to complete their homework.