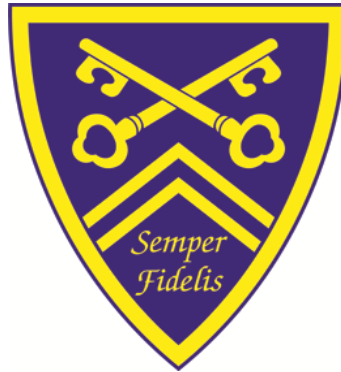




HAGLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



Homework Policy

Version	1
Date created/updated	25/02/2020
Ratified by	<i>E M Yates</i>
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Post holder responsible	Vice Principal

Teacher Standards and Guidance

Teaching Standard 4 which is to 'Plan and teach well-structured lessons' states that all teachers are expected to:

'set homework and plan other out-of-class activities to consolidate and extend the knowledge and understanding pupils have acquired'

Research reflects that homework can be a valuable tool in supporting progress and outcomes. The Education Endowment Foundation Jan 2018 found:

'Evidence also suggests that how homework relates to learning during normal school time is important. In the most effective examples homework was an integral part of learning, rather than an add-on'

Purpose

This policy sets out to share with all stakeholders the purpose of homework at Hagley Catholic High School. The policy supports and reflects the school's teaching and learning ethos and is designed to give students, parents and teachers the necessary support, guidance and knowledge needed to be effective and successful. Homework is an integral part of teaching and learning and **NOT** an 'add-on' and is designed to:

1. Consolidate the learning taking place in the classroom ensuring that students build on prior knowledge enabling success in future lessons.
2. Prepare students for the rigour of effective preparation for external exams so they achieved the highest possible outcomes.
3. Facilitate the experience of working independently and develop a sense of responsibility for students' own learning.
4. Ensure that home learning is manageable so that students and their families are not overwhelmed, and teacher's workload is not onerous.

When Will Homework Be Issued?

Homework will be issued by staff during lessons. Homework will be issued in line with an annually published homework timetable (available via the school website). Homework will be recorded by staff on Class Charts and students are also expected to record the homework in their planner.

Staff are expected to issue a paper copy of all the resources needed to access the homework set to students and also share these on Class Charts. Students should have everything they need to complete the homework without the support of a parent or the internet.

Frequency of Homework

The school recommends that staff set homework giving students at least 3 days (72 hours) to complete it, including a weekend wherever possible. This will allow enough time for parents to see what the student's homework is, to check what the students are doing and to support their child in ensuring that the quality of the homework is good or better. Homework should be manageable for students, parents and staff.

In Key Stage 3 homework will be set weekly by English, Maths, Science and RE, fortnightly by History, Geography, French and Computer Science; and set in a 3-week cycle in Technology, Art, Music and Performing Arts.

In Key Stage 4 homework will be set weekly for each subject.

In Key Stage 5 all subjects will set weekly.

Recommended time a student should spend on homework per subject:

Year 7 = 20 mins per homework set

Year 8 = 25 mins per homework set

Year 9 = 30 mins per homework set

Year 10 = 2 homeworks per fortnight of up to 1 hour in duration total

Year 11 = 2 homeworks per fortnight of up to 1 hour in duration total

Year 12 = Minimum of two hours per subject each week

Year 13 = Minimum of two hours per subject each week

How Can Students and Parents Access Homework Online

Homework is published online via www.Classcharts.com. All students, parents/carers and staff can access this via the Class Charts Apps (Apps exist for all three stakeholders). This system allows parents/carers to easily monitor the homework that is being set on a regular basis.

How Will Homework Be Monitored and Assessed?

At the **start of the lesson** that homework is due homework should be clearly labelled as homework and, where necessary, stuck into the student's book by the student. Homework will either be peer or self-assessed with a red pen by the student. When circulating or marking assessments staff should acknowledge the students' homework with a positive comment, a positive homework stamp or sticker. Where examples of exemplary homework are seen staff should use the department or school Praise and Reward Policy to acknowledge this.

This will form part of the Feedback and Assessment Policy and the quality of the homework set and completed will be monitored through departmental and whole school quality assurance.

If A Student Fails to Complete the Homework Set

Failure to complete homework will result in a student receiving a Homework Fail sanction which will be a 30-minute Department Detention at lunchtime in FG5.

During lessons where homework was due and not submitted students will write in red pen in their exercise book 'HOMEWORK NOT COMPLETE', or staff may choose to use a Department "HOMEWORK NOT DONE" stamp. Students will then complete a "Must do now" task activity while the rest of the group are self/peer assessing the homework, as and when planned.

Staff should ensure resources are made available to support self/peer assessment of the homework E.g. Answer sheet, PowerPoint slide, mark scheme. A teacher may choose to print, the homework "must do now" task, off in advance which may be stuck into the student's exercise books under the heading 'HOMEWORK NOT COMPLETE'.

A teacher will inform the student that they have received a Homework Fail (30-minute detention allocated lunch period) and record this in Class Charts. An alert to parents/carers will be sent to parents/carers of the detention and this information will also be available on their Class Charts App.

All students must have planners out and open on their desk at the start of every lesson. A student's planner will also be stamped with the "HOMEWORK NOT DONE" stamp (or written in if no stamp available) to ensure both the student and parents/carers are fully aware that a Homework Fail sanction has been received by the student. During the Homework Fail detention, the student will complete their homework or a different piece of work to further consolidate the learning that has taken place in school.

All Homework Fail sanctions must be recorded in ClassCharts by staff before 3.40pm on the day allocated.

Rewards for Good Homework

It is vitally important that homework is acknowledge, monitored and rewarded as part of the school's culture of recognising and praising success. Therefore, staff may choose to use any of the following examples to reward and praise good homework:

- ✓ House Points are awarded in ClassCharts.
- ✓ Positive written and verbal comments from the teachers on the student's homework or a stamp or a sticker in their book.
- ✓ Praise postcards sent home.
- ✓ Each department may have an individual reward such as a well-done certificate or letter home.
- ✓ Photographs/copies of work are taken/made and published around school or on social media.

Homework Club

Hagley Catholic High School offers a voluntary homework club in the Hub after school each day till 4pm. Any student is welcome to come and use this space and the support available to complete their homework should they wish. In some cases where the School is aware of students who need support they may be directed to Homework Club in consultation with parents/carers.

Learning Support Centre – The Hub

The Hub offers additional support for students on the SEND register who have barriers to their learning. All staff need to be mindful of these barriers and set differentiated homework to support these students. The Hub is open before and after school and also at social times, break and lunchtime.

What Does Effective Homework Look Like?

Teaching Standard 4 - *'set homework and plan other out-of-class activities to consolidate and extend the knowledge and understanding pupils have acquired'*

What Effective Homework Looks Like	What Ineffective Homework Looks Like
<p>Homework should CONSOLIDATE and EXTEND what happens in the classroom and <u>should not</u> be new learning.</p> <p>Homework should be able to be completed at home by the students without support, other than the resources provided by the teacher - <u>any form of research is not a valid homework unless it is accompanied with a specific task to do.</u></p> <p>Homework should stretch and challenge - students should have to focus on the homework and it extends their learning.</p> <p>There may be occasions in subjects such as MFL whereby homework is oracy based where the students are asked to learn key terms – in such cases the homework set will be task driven such as 'look, cover, check', then write a sentence using the word/term. This homework can then be self/peer assessed in class.</p> <p>Where homework has been set with self-assessed software such as Mathswatch - students exercise book should record the % success of the student and dated.</p> <p>Homework should motivate, inspire and reassure a student about their ability to be successful learners.</p> <p>Homework is purposeful - students and parents clearly see its purpose and its link to improved outcomes.</p>	<p>Students have to teach themselves new content - students should not be asked to practice/learn something that they have not yet mastered in class.</p> <p>Research required - students may struggle with this when they have no access to a computer/internet at home. Some students have to depend on the support of an adult to complete the homework which is not always available. Valuable learning time is wasted on researching new knowledge.</p> <p>Homework that requires no focus – students can do the homework without really paying attention and with little effort.</p> <p>Revise/learn for a test – work is not task driven. A student may choose not to do the set homework and do the test without any practice. Students should be given task driven activities to support them with their revision which can then be self/peer assessed in class.</p> <p>Homework is all self-assessed via a software tool – students do not have the opportunity to do any handwritten work to practice and consolidate the knowledge and skills they will be expected to have to be successful in assessments/external exams.</p> <p>Homework is the same type/style throughout the year – students find this not engaging and will put little effort into the homework</p> <p>Homework which is an 'add on' and not planned into the learning, it is set for the sake of setting homework – students and often parents see no point to the homework when it is not consolidating what is taught in lessons.</p>