



Davenant Foundation School

HOMEWORK POLICY

Last Reviewed: September 2021

Next Review: September 2024

This policy has been reviewed and to the best of our knowledge we do not feel that it impacts on any group or individuals' equality rights within our school community

POLICY DETAILS

Policy Name	Homework	Committee Responsible	Curriculum and Standards
Status	Mandatory	Committee Person i/c	Adam Thorne
Produced by		First Agreed	
Date Produced	June 2012	Last Review Date	Sept 2021
References		Next Review Date	Sept 2024

1. Rationale

Homework is work that is set to be done outside the timetabled curriculum. It contains an element of independent study in that it is not usually directly supervised by a teacher. It is important in raising student achievement and knowledge

Not all 'homework' is done at home; in fact, for some pupils 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 can enhance pupil learning, improve achievement and develop pupils' study skills and as such can be an integral part of the curriculum. Effective homework requires careful planning and integration into the scheme of work of each curriculum area. Homework should not be set for 'homework's sake'. Homework should not cause unnecessary stress for students or be detrimental to their extra-curricular and family life.

2. Aims

Homework can enable-pupils to:

- consolidate and extend work covered in class or prepare for new learning activities.
- access resources not available in the classroom.
- develop research skills.
- have an opportunity for independent work.
- show progress and understanding.
- provide feedback in the evaluation of teaching.
- enhance their study skills e.g. planning, time management and self-discipline.
- take ownership and responsibility for learning.
- engage parental co-operation and support.
- create channels for home school dialogue.

3. Department Homework Policy

All Departments have a homework policy in practice, detailing:

- When homework will be set.
- How much homework should be set.

- Types of homework used.
- Place of homework in the scheme of work.
- Sanctions for unsatisfactory work.
- How and by whom homework will be monitored.

Expectations: How much and by whom?

Whilst homework is not a statutory requirement, the amount set is at the Head teacher's discretion. The uniqueness and demands for each subject will dictate how and what is set to maximize the learning of students while maintaining a healthy home/school balance.

Maximum homework times for year groups.

Year 7 and 8	90 minutes maximum per day
Year 9	120 minutes maximum per day
Year 10 & 11	150 minutes maximum per day

Staff should aim not to set homework for the next day where possible.

Year 12 and 13 will vary depending on individual courses and number of subjects studied.

Homework tasks

Homework can be but not limited to:

- Independent learning
- Consolidation of work in class
- Practice - learning by doing
- Completion of course work assignments
- Research and preparing for next lesson
- Reading
- Interviews
- Drawing
- Using ICT
- Recording
- Flip learning
- Reading around the subject
- Consolidation of learning

Sanctions

When homework is not completed, teachers should initially support the pupil and ensure the tasks set meet the pupil's needs. If this is so, then sanctions should be used. Teachers receive support from their HoTLA and Senior staff. The sanctions are as follows:

- Class teacher - discussion and negotiation with pupil, imposition, informing parents
- HoTLA - discussion and negotiation with referred pupil, imposition, informing parents. letter to parents and detention if necessary.
- Tutors - through weekly monitoring, identifying pupils with homework problems across several curriculum areas and refers to Head of Year. Head of Year discusses and negotiates with pupil, applies sanction or support where appropriate.
- Head of Year - refers pupil to Learning Support Co-ordinator and will work with the parent for a persistent offender.

Incentives

High quality homework and a good work ethos should be sensitively praised in class.

Where appropriate, homework should be included in display work. Credits and rewards for achievement and sustained effort may be awarded for good homework. For exceptional pieces of homework, a department letter or postcard may be sent home.

4. Responsibilities

The role of the student

- To listen to homework instructions in class.
- To copy down instructions for the task and deadline date or access the work via INSIGHT.
- To ensure that homework is completed and handed in to meet the deadline.
- To attempt all work and give their best.
- To inform the class teacher of any difficulties.

The role of the Form Tutor

- To include homework in pupil mentoring where appropriate.
- To encourage good practice of homework
- To note and respond to any comments communicated by parents.

The role of the Class Teacher

The class teacher controls the direction of homework and the nature of tasks undertaken.

The teacher will:

- Set homework according to department policy on INSIGHT
- Aim to set engaging homework
- Ensure work set is appropriate for different students' needs
- Provide the stimulus.
- Check homework is completed by all
- Give full and comprehensive instructions.
- Set deadlines for completed work and ensure that they are met.
- Provide help and support where appropriate, adapting for individuals where appropriate
- Inform the HoTLA and Curriculum Leader, Tutor and Head of Year, as appropriate, when problems arise.

The role of the Librarian

- To provide after school and lunchtime opportunities for independent study.

The role of the HoTLA & Subject Leader

- To seek to enhance the quality of homework set.
- To monitor and evaluate homework policy within their curriculum area.

The role of the SLG

- To provide staff, pupils and parents with the necessary homework documentation.
- To develop classroom practice to enhance homework across the school.

- To review annually the school homework policy.
- To monitor and evaluate the school homework policy.
- To monitor amount set by departments to ensure balance and consistency.

The role of the Parents

The role of the parent is crucial if a child is to gain success from homework. To reinforce its value through positive feedback will give students the confidence to persevere, work hard and reach high standards of achievement.

Parents can assist by:

- Providing a table, chair and a quiet place to work.
- Arranging with their child when homework is to be done as a student's free time and clubs are important too.
- Checking the time spent on individual tasks.
- Ensuring that outside clubs do not hamper a child's quality of work and put a child under undue pressure.
- Checking presentation and content of all homework being returned to school.
- Regularly checking INSIGHT to see what has been set.
- Providing the school with information about any problems by e mailing reception

5. Monitoring

Subject Staff

- Will keep a record of homework tasks as part of planning an sequencing learning.
- Make the record available to the HoTLA and Subject Leader if requested.

HoTLA and Subject Leader

- Will sample homework
- Will look at examples of homework and talk to pupils and staff according to monitoring programme using homework monitoring criteria.
- Will evaluate and update action plan if required.

SLG

- Will sample homework in their Line Managed area
- Will sample examples of work and talk to pupils according to monitoring programme.
- Will review school policy every two years.

MONITORING THE POLICY

- The Homework Policy is regularly monitored (at least bi-annually) **by Governors** and evaluated to check that it supports students' learning in the best possible way.
- The SLG with HODs will monitor frequency to ensure students receive a balance of homework that enhances learning without being detrimental to a student's wellbeing and family time

LINKED POLICIES:

- Teaching and Learning Policy
- Curriculum Policy
- ICT Policy
- Marking and Assessment