



Homework Policy

Date agreed by Governors: Oct 2017

Date of Review: Oct 2018

Member of Staff Responsible for the Policy: DW

Date of next review: June 2018

Dissemination of the Policy: All staff, Governors and website

Purpose and aim of the policy and procedures

At Pittville School all students are expected to undertake homework on a regular basis in the belief that it supports the development of independent learning skills. Homework is a way of consolidating the knowledge, understanding and skills acquired in a lesson, as well as providing the opportunity for investigation or research in preparation for new topics. Its purpose is, therefore, to extend and reinforce learning. As an integral part of the curriculum it is planned and prepared alongside all other programs of learning. Staff, students, parents and governors recognise the school's clear commitment to homework.

Practices and Procedures

There are many and varied forms of effective homework tasks, some of which may not always involve producing a written piece of work. The following table shows how a range of legitimate forms of homework are used by different subjects to encourage students to be responsible, self-reliant, independent learners:

Subject	Type of Homework Set										Frequency of setting	
	Investigations	Extension work	Reading	Research	Revision	Project work	Drafting / re-drafting	Planning / preparation	Self-assessment	Exam questions	KS3	KS4
English	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			Fortnightly Half-termly	Weekly
Maths					✓			✓			Weekly	Weekly
Science	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	Half-termly	Weekly
DT		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			Half-termly	Weekly
History	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	Fortnightly	Weekly
Geography	✓		✓	✓			✓			✓	Monthly	Weekly
RE	✓			✓	✓	✓					Termly	Termly
Music		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			Half-termly	Weekly
Drama			✓	✓	✓			✓			When needed	Weekly
PE				✓	✓					✓	Not set	Half-termly
Health & Social Care		✓		✓	✓			✓		✓	N/A	Fortnightly
Business Studies												

The amount of homework set will vary according to the needs of the subject and the age of the student. The DfE recommends that in years 7 and 8 homework should take anything from 45 to 90 minutes daily while for years 9 to 11, between 1 to 2 hours daily. As guidance, we suggest 1 hour daily for students in Key Stage 3 and 2 hours daily for Years 10 and 11, though obviously a degree of flexibility must be allowed. The quality, purposefulness and challenge of a task are more important than the length of time it takes to complete.

Keystage 3

Most subjects have now moved to longer, extended homework setting at Key Stage 3. This reflects the need for setting relevant, demanding homework that will enhance the learning in each subject rather than setting more regular homework for the sake of it.

Keystage 4

One homework of one hour per week for most subjects (see table for other arrangements).

Showmyhomework

From September 2017 all homework will be set using our online package Showmyhomework. It will be compulsory to set all homework online from September 2017.

What can parents do?

Homework is an important aspect of the school's partnership with parents. We ask parents to support children by providing suitable spaces and times for students to complete homework, and by monitoring the quality of work produced. Parents can play an invaluable role in encouraging their children through longer, extended tasks which may take several weeks. Since all homework is recorded by students in their planners, it is expected that parents will regularly inspect and sign these and that they will support the school in taking action against students who do not complete tasks satisfactorily or who regularly miss deadlines.

Extra support in school

- Teachers will support students who require extra help with homework.
- 'Prep' sessions are run during afternoon registration by tutors to support students and also to monitor the completion of homework by tutees.
- The SEND Homework Club supports those students who wish to take advantage of the school's facilities.

Roles and Responsibilities

- The Deputy Headteacher with responsibility for curriculum will, in consultation with staff, publish Homework timetables. These timetables will allow sufficient

flexibility for homework to be set according to the needs of individual subjects. At the same time care will be taken to avoid too many subjects setting work on one night. Generally, where weekly homework is set, it will be given out on the day of the lesson and students will have a minimum of two school days in which to complete it.

- The quality, relevance and regularity of homework setting across subjects will be monitored according to the school monitoring calendar. All subjects will complete a homework review during the academic year.
- Heads of Faculty will monitor the setting of effective regular homework within their faculty and ensure the development of innovative homework practices which reflect developments within education generally and the range of learning styles. Homework and its marking will be linked directly to the Faculty/Subject Marking policy.
- The class teacher will set purposeful, challenging homework tasks, differentiated where appropriate, to suit the needs of individuals. They will ensure the heading 'homework' appears in exercise books and that details of the work set, together with deadlines for completion, are recorded in students' planners. All homework should be marked according to the faculty's/subject's Marking Policy. Good homeworks are acknowledged and rewarded through the school's rewards system.
- Students will complete work appropriately and on time or risk sanctions, including detentions. A persistent lack of homework will automatically result in the award of grade C for Attitude to Learning during the next data entry.
- Homework will be reviewed annually by SLT through faculty review procedures.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually by the SLT and the governors.

The Homework Policy is linked to the following policies:

Teaching and Learning Policy
Marking and Assessment Policy