

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.

Practices and Procedures

There are many and varied forms of effective homework tasks. All of the following are legitimate forms of homework which encourage students to be responsible, self-reliant, independent learners:

- Investigations
- Extension work
- Reading/research
- Revision
- Projects
- Drafting or re-drafting
- Planning or preparation

The amount of homework set will vary according to the needs of the subject and the age of the student. The quality, purposefulness and challenge of a task is more important than the length of time it takes to complete. As guidance, we suggest:

Keystage 3

English, maths – one homework per week (60 minutes)

French – one homework per week (30 minutes)

Geography, History – one homework per fortnight (60 minutes)

Science, RE, D&T, ICT – one project per half term

Drama, Music – one homework per topic (approximately once every half term)

Keystage 4

One homework of one hour per week for all subjects.

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.

Homework sessions are run after-school and during the school day to support those students who wish to take advantage of the school's facilities.

Homework timetables will be published with care taken to avoid too many subjects setting work on one night. The class teacher will set purposeful, challenging homework tasks, differentiated to suit the needs of individuals. Deadlines for completion are recorded in students' planners and once completed, should be marked according to the school's Marking Policy. Students will complete work appropriately and on time or risk sanctions, including detentions. Good homeworks are acknowledged and rewarded through the school's rewards system.