

Homework Policy (Senior School)



HYDESVILLE
TOWER SCHOOL

September 2022

The Purpose of Homework

1. Consolidate and extend work covered in class or prepare for new learning activities.
2. Access resources not available in the classroom.
3. Develop research skills.
4. Have an opportunity for independent work.
5. Show progress and understanding.
6. To enhance study skills e.g. planning, time management and self-discipline.
7. To take ownership and responsibility for learning.

The Setting of Homework

8. In Years 7 – 11 pupils and parents will receive a Homework Timetable during the first week of the academic year. This will act as a guide to when homework for individual subjects will be set.
9. Homework allocations are as follows:
 - a. Years 7/8: Two pieces per day (approximately 30 minutes per subject);
 - b. Year 9: Varies between two to three pieces of homework a night (approximately 30 minutes per subject);
 - c. Year 10/11: three pieces per day (approximately 45 minutes per subject);

Differentiation

10. All homework will require an element of differentiation. The following is a guide to how a teacher may attempt to achieve this, and to make tasks accessible to the whole range of pupils within a class.
11. Differentiation at Hydesville Tower School takes five distinct forms:
 - a. By task – where pupils of differing abilities and/or learning styles are given tailored activities to enable them to achieve the learning objective to the best of their abilities;
 - b. By outcome – where all pupils are given the same, open-ended tasks to complete allowing for pupil response at different levels;
 - c. By support – where more support is given to some pupils than others. – in some situations, for example, those pupils receiving academic support may need personalised support, whilst in others EAL pupils may need help to reach the next level of understanding;
 - d. By choice – where more than one method or strategy may be deployed in order to achieve the same learning outcome, pupils are allowed to select the style/method that will work for them, and that they enjoy; or
 - e. By resource – where a different array of resources may be provided based on attainment and understanding, since some resources may be more or less suitable dependent upon literacy, speed of working, need for stretch and challenge, etc.

12. It is important to recognise that:
 - a. The nature of homework will vary according to subject;
 - b. There will be some variation from week to week depending on the topics and skills being taught in a particular subject; and
13. Feedback on homework:
 - a. All homework completed by pupils should be acknowledged;
 - b. Subject assessment and marking policies indicate the nature of feedback that it is appropriate for staff to give on pupils' homework;
 - c. Feedback should, wherever possible, be formative, indicating how improvement could be possible and the next steps that pupils need to take in order to improve;
 - d. Formative assessment may give no mark or grade; rather it may give detailed feedback on areas to improve. This helps pupils to focus on how to improve their learning and the quality of their work; and
 - e. Homework should be appropriately assessed and feedback given to pupils within a reasonable time of completing work. Some feedback should occur within the completion of the two week timetable cycle. This feedback may take a variety of forms: general or individual oral feedback, written comments and/or marks/grades.

Rewards

14. Merits will be given as rewards for achievement and sustained effort with homework.

Failure to complete homework/meet deadlines

15. Pupils are expected to:
 - a. Complete homework to the best of their ability, in the allocated time;
 - b. Use their planner to actively plan and manage their homework and meet deadlines and for dialogue between home and school. If pupils know that they will find it difficult to meet a deadline, for valid reasons they should inform their teacher and negotiate an agreed extension.
16. Failure to complete homework will result initially in a department detention, followed by a lunchtime or after school detention. Heads of Year will be informed when homework is repeatedly not completed or deadlines are missed, pupils may be asked to attend study support or homework club or be put on a homework report. Parents will be informed of repeated failure to produce homework through planners, an e-mail or phone call.

Role of the teacher

To ensure that, while stressing and enforcing the importance of homework, pupils are not overburdened with it.

Teachers should ensure that all pupils understand fully the homework task and seek clarification when necessary.

Ample time should be given by the class teacher so that homework can be accurately recorded in diary. Teachers are encouraged to set the homework well in advance of the end of the lesson, where possible.

Teachers should set homework which is suitably challenging (and attainable) for pupils of all abilities.

Homework should be given by teachers on a regular basis and be in line with departmental guidance.

Teachers may give guidance on how much time should be spent on their homework.

A variety of homework should be set by the teacher: learning/ reading/ written/ research etc.

All feedback on marked homework should be of use to the pupil. Homework should be returned as soon as possible and all marks should be noted by the subject teacher.

Any concerns about the quality of homework should be communicated by the subject teacher to parents in the first instance through the pupil planner. The Head of Department should be made aware of ongoing concerns so that further communication can be initiated if necessary. Equally so, praise should be communicated, where appropriate.

Completion dates for assessments should be given to the pupils as soon as possible and pupils instructed to record these in their diary thus providing parents with the information.

Role of the parent

Parents should try to ensure that their child has a quiet, comfortable and appropriate environment in which they can work.

A homework routine should be established in order to allow the child to get used to studying every evening.

Parents should ensure that children have the basic equipment required for completion of homework: pens/ pencils/ calculators/ glue/ compass etc.

When possible, parents should discuss their child's homework and ask them to talk to them about what they did in class.

Parents should be mindful of activities outside of school which may inhibit their child's progress, by interfering with their homework time (sports/ part time jobs etc) and ensure that an appropriate balance is struck.

The amount of homework a child is given should be monitored by the parents. They must also ensure that adequate time is spent by their child at home completing homework.

Pupil planners must be signed by parents on a weekly basis. It is also most beneficial to discuss the amount of homework/ notes from subject teachers

Parents should make an appointment with their child's Form Tutor should there be any concerns about homework.

TIMETABLES 2022-23**Year 7A**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
French	English	Maths	History	Science
Science	Religious Studies	Geography	Maths	English

Year 7B

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
French	English	Maths	English	Science
Science	Religious Studies	Geography	Maths	History

Year 8A

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Maths	Religious Studies	Maths	French	Science
Geography	Science	English	History	English

Year 8B

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Maths	English	Maths	French	Science
Religious Studies	Science	English	History	Geography

Year 9A

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Religious Studies	Maths	History	English	English
Geography	Science	Science	French	Maths
Science				

Year 9B

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English	Maths	History	Religious Studies	English
Science	Science	Science	Maths	Geography
			French	

Year 10

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Science	Maths	Option B	English	Option D
English	Science	Option C	Science	Maths
			Option A	Science

- Option A subjects are Business, Food & Nutrition, Geography, Music or Art.
- Option B subjects are Computer Science, Food & Nutrition or Art
- Option C subjects are History or French
- Option D subjects are: Religious Studies, PE or Business

Year 11

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Science	Option A	Option D	Science	Option B
Option C	Maths	Maths	English	English
		Science		

- Option A subjects are Business, Spanish or Computer Science
- Option B subjects are Geography or Religious Studies
- Option C subjects are History, French or PE
- Option D subjects are: Religious Studies, Art, Music, or Business