

Woodrush High School

An Academy for Students Aged 11-18

Homework and independent Study Policy



Policy author / reviewer	C Sheppard
Responsible LGB committee	Teaching and Learning
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The purpose of Homework and Independent Study

Homework and Independent Study are essential to developing lifelong learning and independent study skills which go way beyond the classroom.

Weekly homework and independent study will;

- Embed things learnt in lessons, by revising (learning) or doing (developing skills).
- Extend learning, by exploring further and applying things learnt to different contexts.
- Prepare for the following lesson, by researching or learning in advance.
- Improve literacy, by 20 minutes of reading daily.

When Homework and Independent Study will be set and done

At the start of the academic year, Key Stage 3 students will receive a homework timetable which will outline which subjects they should focus on each night of the week.

Some subjects will set weekly learning homework, other subjects will set longer projects which will require students to plan their time carefully and ensure they do something each week to add to the project.

At Key Stages 4 and 5, students are required to be able to plan their own use of time more independently. Working to a deadline is a skill that will prepare students for adult life, higher education, apprenticeships and training and the world of work.

How Homework and Independent Study will be set and monitored

Homework will be set by class teachers and should be recorded in the Student Planner. Form tutors and parents / carers are required to check and sign the student planners each week. All homework set will be on FROG for students and parents to access and for the school to monitor.

When homework is not completed, appropriate action will be taken by the class teacher that set the homework, usually resulting in a detention. If persistent non-completion of homework occurs, the class teacher will contact home. Where there is a problem with non-completion of homework across a number of subjects, the relevant Progress Leaders will work to ensure that all parties are fulfilling their role and responsibility in ensuring homework is done.

The Type of Homework and Independent Study that students will receive At Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8)

Reading	Students should read at home for at least 20 minutes per day. All students are expected to have an Accelerated Reader book with them in their bags at all times.
Maths	Questions consolidating work from the week. MyMaths; revision; MathsWatch; BBC Bitesize; You Tube
English	Spellings
Science	Students complete pages from revision/homework book weekly. Supplemented by adhoc qs, online revision, research as required.
MFL	Vocabulary / grammar learning
Humanities	Termly independent research projects combining different aspects of Humanities skills.
ICT	Half termly projects, completing tasks in an e-portfolio.
DT	Independent 'make and build' extended design projects, using and applying the skills learnt in DT lessons.



Creative Arts	Research of key practitioners, artists, composers or musicians, styles or genres. Linked to schemes of work and the arts subject currently being studied.
PE	1 project set for each half term linked to key processes taught in lessons. These will add to students 'learning portfolio'. All students are also encouraged to attend at least one extra curricular PE club after school.

Reading

- Students are expected to read at home for at least 20 minutes per day.
- All students are expected to have an Accelerated Reader book with them in their bags at all times
- Parents are encouraged to read with their child to read at home and ask questions about what they are reading.
- Parents are encouraged to ask their child to read aloud to them, siblings or other family members.
- We request that parents sign up to 'Home Connect' to keep track of their child's progress.
- We suggest visits to the local library to discuss the books the students have read.

As with anything, performance improves with practice. According to research, children who read at least 20 minutes a day with a 90% comprehension rate on AR quizzes see the greatest gains.

The Type of Homework and Independent Study that students will receive At Key Stage 4 (Years 9,10,11)

Reading	Students should read at home for at least 20 minutes per day.
Maths	Questions consolidating work from the week. MyMaths; revision; MathsWatch; BBC Bitesize; You Tube, past papers, revision booklets
English	SPAG, coursework, practice exam papers, poetry research tasks, comprehension questions
Science	Students complete pages from revision/homework book weekly. Supplemented by adhoc qs, online revision, research as required.
MFL	Regular learning; reading packs, revision packs and online revision websites.
Humanities	Independent research for flipped learning. Revision and POP quizzes to check pupils have revised. Exam practise questions.
ICT	Project based. Independent research portfolios contributing to an e-portfolio.
DT	Extending work done in class - improvement of CA. Revision for exams.
Creative Arts	Music - Theory exercises, exam questions, key vocab learning, research, instrument practice and practice diaries. Drama and dance - individual rehearsal, research of practitioners, exam practice questions. Art and photography - research and analysis of practitioners, development of artwork.
PE	Half termly assessment tasks to support theory or demonstrate knowledge of topic. All students are encouraged to attend at least one extra curricular PE club after school

The Type of Homework and Independent Study that students will receive At Key Stage 5 (Years 12, 13)

Maths	Questions consolidating work from the week. Past papers over holidays
English	Essay responses, revision, reading, annotation, consolidation
Science	Pre reading, exam questions, small sections of topics to flip learn,



	revision
Modern Foreign Languages	Reading exercises, practice essays, grammar exercises, practice speaking questions and role plays
Humanities	Research, revision and related reading.
ICT	Students to learn and practise new software skills
DT	Extending work done in class - improvement of CA / development of practical work. Revision for exams.
Creative Arts	Art and photo - research and analysis of practitioners, development of artwork. Music - individual practice and practice diaries, research tasks
PE	Assignment briefs to be completed according to assessment deadlines. All students should attend at least one extra curricular PE club after school

The school will :

- Ensure the subject teachers set appropriate homework
- Ensure that all homework set is accessible via FROG
- Check that students are recording homework in planners
- Provide a KS3 timetable for homework and support with time management
- Give feedback on homework in line with the school's feedback policy
- Provide ICT facilities and a quiet space to do work in the library

Parents / carers should :

- Provide a suitable place at home for students to work at home or encourage them to use the school library.
- Support the school in valuing homework as an essential part of learning and progress.
- Check and sign the student planner to ensure that homework is being recorded.
- Monitor that students are doing the homework that has been set.
- Use FROG to clarify homework tasks or queries.
- Support with homework tasks where necessary but encourage students to become increasingly independent in the time management and completion of tasks.
- Contact the school (via FROG or a note in the student planner) if there is a genuine reason why homework could not be completed.
- Support the school in setting sanctions when homework is not completed.
- Liaise with the school if there are any concerns regarding homework.

Students should :

- Value the fact that homework is an essential part of learning and progress.
- Record all homework set in the Student Planner.
- Complete the homework set by the deadline given.
- Use FROG to clarify and complete homework tasks.
- Learn to manage their time effectively.
- Find out what classwork and homework has been missed if they were absent from school, and catch up.
- Accept sanctions when homework is not done.
- Take pride in the work done at home and complete to the best standard they can.