

FERRYHILL SCHOOL



HOMework POLICY

Policy Author: Miss Anderson

RATIONALE:

Homework provides students with an exciting opportunity to think outside of the box and immerse themselves in the world around them. It allows students to try something new and develop vital skills beyond the classroom in preparation for the next steps in their educational journey. We owe it to our students to provide them with homework that challenges them as an individual to thrive.

Homework enhances student learning, improves achievement and develops students' independent study skills and as such is an integral part of the curriculum. It requires careful planning and integration into the scheme of learning of each curriculum area.

Homework principles align with our core values:

Demonstrate **INTEGRITY**
Channel their **CREATIVITY**
And strive for **EXCELLENCE**

WE SET HOMEWORK:

- To challenge students and encourage them to develop a thirst for knowledge.
- To encourage students to learn how to study well independently and with the support of their parents.
- To consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding.
- To promote the highest standards of learning and achievement.
- To ensure students are prepared for the 'world of work'.
- To allow students to take creative risks.

WHAT SHOULD TEACHERS AND STUDENTS EXPECT?

- All homework assignments will be set using Microsoft Teams, including when students are tasked with completing work via online resources.
- Subject teachers explain tasks clearly and set deadlines using Microsoft Teams.
- **TEACHERS CLEARLY IDENTIFY THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CLASS WORK AND HOMEWORK ON TEAMS TO ENSURE THAT STUDENTS KNOW WHAT HAS BEEN SET FOR THEM.**
- All students are expected to receive and complete homework relevant to their ability.
- Teachers endeavour to relate homework tasks to work carried out in lessons in order to consolidate and extend learning.
- An appropriate amount of homework tasks should be spread out over a two-week period across the curriculum.
- Teachers set homework that consolidates, challenges and engages students.
- Wherever possible, homework tasks should be set well in advance with realistic

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hand-in dates. Individual departments have access to online resources where homework can be set for students to complete outside of the school day e.g. My maths, teaching gadget and Kerboodle etc.

- In years 7, 8 and 9 students should record homework tasks in their planners to support their organisational skills and promote independence.
- Students in years 10 and 11 are independent learners and we expect them to actively view homework using their Microsoft Teams app via their smartphone (after school), using a computer during homework club or at home.
- Students should monitor their homework via the weekly Microsoft Teams email they receive. This clearly outlines the set and due date for homework tasks so students can organise themselves and take responsibility for their learning,
- If homework is to be carried out via Teams, students must complete tasks and click 'hand in' to ensure teachers can provide appropriate feedback.
- High quality homework and a good work ethos should be sensitively praised in class.
- Where appropriate, homework should be included in display work. Rewards for achievement and sustained effort may be awarded for good homework. For exceptional pieces of homework, a member of staff may wish to send a letter or postcard home to inform parents/carers. (Class charts can also be used for this).

WHAT SUPPORT IS NEEDED?

- Subject teachers provide resources and extra help for those that need it.
- Students should ask for support if they have a problem with homework - we are always here to support.
- We support our students by providing IT resources so they can complete homework tasks. Room 36 may be used at the end of the school day to complete tasks. A member of staff will be there to support students. We also run homework clubs for specific year groups. please see Learning coordinators for this.
- Subject teachers mark work and feedback to students via Microsoft Teams, they could also receive verbal feedback where appropriate. They will usually reward good work and effort using Class charts.
- Class teachers give sanctions when work is not completed to an appropriate standard, however, we work with our students to ensure they can manage their workload. Again, students should speak to staff if they feel they require extra support.
- Directors of Learning will monitor the quality of homework and liaise with Learning Co-ordinators and parents to ensure that standards are met.

MONITORING OF HOMEWORK

Planners will be checked by:

1. The form tutor (weekly)
2. Deputy Head Teacher (T&L)

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SUBJECT STAFF

1. Will keep a record of homework tasks using Microsoft Teams.
2. Make the record available to the Director of Learning during quality assurance processes.

DIRECTORS OF LEARNING

1. Will monitor homework records from department staff and their students through the QA process.
2. Will look at examples of homework and talk to students when monitoring homework.
3. Will celebrate excellence with the Deputy Headteacher (T&L)

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER (TEACHING AND LEARNING)

1. Will discuss homework with students during lesson observations to gauge learning and progress.
2. Will review homework with Directors of Learning and gauge progress.
3. Will regularly review school policy.

*"HOMEWORK IS NOT AN OPTIONAL EXTRA, BUT AN ESSENTIAL PART OF A GOOD EDUCATION".
DFE, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - WHITE PAPER, EXCELLENCE IN SCHOOLS*