

School Policy on Homework

Name of school: The Grange School

Date of Policy: 17th June 2010

**Member(s) of staff
Responsible:** Mr C Cox

Review Date: June 2012

The Grange School promotes homework as a valuable aspect of pupils' learning, striving to ensure that it is both relevant and effective.

- Each department has a stated homework policy, outlining that department's particular requirements.
- All staff and students are aware of the dates and the frequency homeworks are set, this ensures consistency within departments and the school.

Entitlement

All pupils should have access to the same frequency of homework tasks, differentiated according to ability and/or by outcome.

The Government's recommended figures for the duration of Homework are:

- Year 7 and 8 45 to 90 minutes per day
- Year 9 1½ hours per day
- Years 10 and 11 1½ to 2½ hours per day

Homework is set according to an agreed timetable so that there is a balance in the amount of homework that has to be completed on a particular night.

The quantity of homework set by a department will be in proportion to the number of periods taught:

- 4 periods equates to 2 homework tasks per week
- 2 periods equates to 1 homework task per week
- 1 period equates to homework task per fortnight

- Option subjects (Years 10 + 11) twice per week

The Homework timetable should reflect this balance.

A pupil should expect to have up to 12 to 14 homework tasks per week or up to but not exceeding three per night.

The duration of each task:

Years 7 and 8: 5 to 30 minutes
Year 9: 30 minutes
Years 10 and 11: Up to 50 minutes

Homework Tasks

Tasks will vary from subject to subject in terms of duration, level, aspect of learning and so on. The tasks could be:

- Vocabulary learning exercises
- Essay type
- Research-based
- Reading
- 'Lists of 20-questions'
- Revision (for tests)
- Exam Papers
- Coursework
- Practical
- Collecting resources and materials

The type of homework will determine the duration of the task. This may mean it takes two weeks if, for example, it is a piece of GCSE coursework in Year 10 or 11.

Marking and Assessment of Homework

It is essential that work is marked as soon as possible after completion so that pupils feel that their efforts are valued.

The assessment of the piece of work should be appropriate and relevant to the type of task set.

Striving for 'Best Practice'

- Departments should define the purpose of the homework being set.
- Departments should adhere to a regular, consistent pattern of homework
- Homework should be regarded as an integral part of the curriculum –

planned and prepared alongside a department's programme of learning

- Effective Homework practices should be established in Year 7 (following on from those established in KS2) and then developed further through to Year 11.
- Homework is set, marked and monitored regularly and effectively.
- Homework contributes to the challenge of raising achievement.
- Homework tasks are differentiated and are appropriate to the needs Of individuals.
- Homework is marked in line with the department's or school's marking policy.
- Homework completed well is acknowledged and rewarded.
- Effective homework encourages parental support and guidance.
- Appropriate homework tasks promote independent learning.
- Innovative homework can be used to promote and develop the use of ICT and can assist accelerated learning.

Homework Planners/Diaries

The use of planners is seen as essential to help pupils organise their homework. Homework should be recorded along with the date it is due in. The checking of pupils' planners is completed according to the school's policy and carried out by Tutors, Heads of Year, subject staff and senior staff. Parents/guardians are asked to check and sign planners each week.

Parental and Carers Involvement

We rely on parents and carers to support us with the homework set by encouraging their child to complete it well and on time and by giving feedback to the school.

Policy Review

Consultation with pupils, parents and staff will take place on a regular basis to review the effectiveness of the policy. A regular review will ensure that the policy links to the Home-School Agreement.

Signed.....I Walshaw..... on behalf of the Governing Body

Date.....17.6.10.....

Signed.....J M Thomas..... on behalf of the School

Date.....18.6.10.....