

11<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

# Re: Homework

As a school we believe in the value of homework. It consolidates, supports and extends classroom learning, provides opportunities to prepare for future lessons and assessments as well as improving independent learning skills. It enables parents/carers to get involved in and support student learning. It provides a good foundation for life-long learning. Our homework policy and procedures help us to develop high educational standards, in line with our school aims. They underline our commitment to learning as a partnership between students, teachers and parents/carers.

We have an expectation that homework will be:

- Set, completed and submitted regularly according to the procedures described below.
- Communicated in an effective way.
- Appropriate and relevant to student needs.
- Assessed and monitored.

## How is it set?

All homework set is recorded on our homework portal - 'Satchel One: Show my homework' (SMHW) this is accessible on PC/tablet and mobile phones. Students, parents and staff have individual logins.

## What is set?

Homework set will vary from subject to subject however there will be an emphasis on knowledge recall and retrieval. This method of learning will help students retain key information in their long-term memory and support future learning. Several subjects use computer packages to support homework such as Sparx, Hegarty Maths, Language Nut and Seneca. To support independent learning, these programmes provide support to help students answer questions correctly.

# How often and how much?

| Subject                       | Frequency    | Duration  |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Core: English, maths, science | 1 x per week | 1 ½ hours |
| Options                       | 1 x per week | 1 ½ hours |

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#### Year 7-9

| Subject                       | Frequency     | Duration |
|-------------------------------|---------------|----------|
| Core: English, maths, science | 1 x per week  | 1 hour   |
| Other subjects                | 1 x per week* | 1 hour   |

\*We operate a 2-week timetable therefore it may be an extended piece is set fortnightly.

# What support is available in school?

Keep Up - Subjects run a weekly after school session to support students that need additional help to complete the work or who need computer access. These sessions are supervised by subject specialist teachers who can support as needed. All students can attend these sessions.

# What happens if the work is not completed?

Any student who fails to meet a homework deadline will be placed in a 'Catch Up Session'. Catch up sessions take place after school and students are expected to attend. Parents/carers will receive an email notification if their son/daughter has been placed in a 'Catch Up Session'. Each session lasts for a maximum of 60 minutes. The focus of these sessions is to support all students completing the work to the required standard and not sanction students for not completing the work. Students can leave the session when the work is completed and are not required to stay for the full 60 minutes if this is done.

| Day      | Subject                    | Room         |
|----------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Monday   | Physical Education         | PE           |
|          | Visual Arts                | N35          |
|          | KS3 Humanities             | EO1          |
|          | KS4 English                | N16          |
| Tuesday  | KS4 Humanities             | E01          |
|          | KS3 Maths                  | N32          |
|          | Performing Arts            | Drama Studio |
|          | KS3 Science                | DT ICT       |
| Thursday | KS3 English                | S15          |
|          | KS4 Maths                  | N32          |
|          | KS4 Science                | N16          |
|          | French                     | EO1          |
| Friday   | Senior Team Catch Up       | LRC          |
|          |                            |              |
| Each Day | General Homework Provision | LRC          |

A copy of the Keep Up-Catch Up programme is shown below:

## How can parents/carers help?

- Check the SMHW website or app and discuss what homework has been set
- Talk with your child about their homework, the standards they are achieving and the importance of carrying out homework tasks
- Check deadlines and help your child manage their time
- Where possible provide a quiet space or encourage your child to attend a keep up session in the LRC after school.
- Praise your child for successful completion of homework sharing rewards notifications
- Contact the subject teachers and pastoral staff if further help or information is needed

Should you have any specific queries regarding the completion of subject homework please contact the relevant teacher.

**Yours Sincerely** 

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Mr M Newnham Reeve Deputy Headteacher