



Seahaven Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

20th October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Keep Up, Catch Up

This academic year I will be writing to you each term to share some of our developments in our approaches to teaching and learning so that you are able to support both your child and the school in our endeavours to achieve 'the best in everyone'. Independent learning is central to this. We have been exploring how through classwork, revision and homework our students can become increasingly independent and in turn increasingly successful in their studies. During Term 1 we have reviewed and adapted our approach to homework. Please find attached supporting documents: Seahaven Academy Homework policy (with how to support tips for parents/carers)

Homework at Seahaven

It is not uncommon for students to ask '**What is the point of homework?**' At Seahaven our answer would include:

- to develop independent study and learning routines
- to reinforce practice/ extension from what has been learnt in class
- to revise for assessments
- to enhance and extend the subject curriculum

It is not to exert authority over students – our focus is learning and progress. All decisions that we make are to **ensure that learning is impactful and effective**. **Independent learning** tasks set to be completed outside of lessons are **fundamental in supporting and enhancing** the learning taking place in lessons.

When **designing the curriculum** subject leaders work with their teams to plan high quality home works that are **integral to the schemes of work**. Subjects have identified the best approaches for their subject at the different key stages. Homework can therefore include both guided and independent practice, development of vocabulary and literacy, retrieval/recall and revision.

Systems

Setting

Show My Homework (SMHW) is consistently used to set homework in school.



Principal Sarah Pringle

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Keep Up

All students will be given the opportunity to attend 'Keep Up' sessions. The purpose of this provision is to provide students with a quiet space to work in order to complete any homework set or missed work.

Catch Up

Students who have failed to complete a piece of homework will be required to attend a 'Catch Up' session. This session will be allocated by the subject and MUST be attended by the student. The purpose of this provision is to prevent students from having gaps in their knowledge and therefore falling behind.

Timings of Sessions

Both sessions will take place twice per week within the Year Group ICT suite with sessions supervised by school staff. Students will have the provision to work on computers or at desks and will be provided with all the equipment needed in order to complete the work. The sessions will run from 2.20pm to 4pm. Students will be permitted to leave the session when they have completed the required piece of work. It is important to stress that the staff supervising the session may not be a subject specialist and therefore students are expected to work independently.

Days and Locations

Monday		Year 8 - LRC	Year 10 – N32
Tuesday	Year 7 – EO1	Year 9 - LRC	Year 11 – N32
Wednesday		Year 8 - LRC	Year 10 – N32
Thursday	Year 7 – EO1	Year 9 - LRC	Year 11 – N32

Rewards and Responses

- **H2** - Positive Reward for timely submission of homework completed to the expected standard
- **H-2** - Non submission or poor quality homework to be resubmitted
- Catch-up: If given H-2 students will be required to attend a 'catch up session' – parents will receive an automated alert. On completion and submission of the work a H2 will be awarded – making the balance of rewards 0.
- Where we have significant concerns regarding the completion of homework, parents will be invited to attend a meeting. A poor homework record is likely to result in a student underachieving across therefore time at Seahaven and therefore it is important positive routines are established and maintained.

Parents and Carers

The Education Endowment Fund advises” Parents can support their children by encouraging them to set goals, plan and manage their time and emotions. This type of support can help children to regulate their own learning, and will often be more valuable than direct help with homework tasks.” See the attached Homework Policy document for more information.

As a school we carefully consider the available research when developing our strategies and approaches to teaching and learning and then apply it to our particular context. If you would like to know more, please contact me at the school.

Yours sincerely,

Mariea Christodoulou