



Seahaven Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

MPC

October 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Teaching and Learning at Seahaven Academy

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 Academy

It is not uncommon for students to ask 'What is the point of homework?' At Seahaven Academy 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 homeworks 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.



Principal Sarah Pringle

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Systems

Show My Homework (SMHW) and Homework Manifests (on classroom doors) are consistently used to set homework in school.

Support

Every day from 07.15 to 07.55 and from 2.15 until 4.15 homework club which is staffed by both teachers and TAs together is available to all students. In addition, all subjects offer a 'catch up' session at least once per week if students would like specific help with their work.

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' and parents will receive an automated alert. On completion and submission of the work an H2 will be awarded – making the balance of rewards 0.
- Headteacher Detention: Failure to attend the catch-up session will result in the allocation of a Headteacher detention to be held on Thursdays and Fridays after school. Notifications of the detention will be automated.
- Where we have significant concerns parents will be invited to a meeting at the school. A poor homework record may result in not being eligible for particular opportunities for example, school trips.

Parents and Carers

The Education Endowment Fund advises that "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
Deputy Headteacher