



Homework Policy 2018 - 2021

At Hetton School we believe that homework plays an important role in supporting and enriching the learning that takes place in classrooms on a daily basis. Targets given after each half-termly assessment will directly inform homework, giving students the opportunity to work on specific skills and/or knowledge that they personally need support with. Of course for a variety of reasons not all 'homework' can take place at home and so for this reason the library is available before school from 8am, at break, at lunch and after school until 4pm.

Aims

- Ensure that **all** students at Hetton School can fulfil their right to access extended learning
- Develop a culture of taking responsibility for one's own learning and success
- Encourage students to link effective study skills and self-discipline with higher levels of achievement
- Encourage students to develop transferable skills which will support learning in both the short and longer term; teamwork, planning, research, presentation, initiative, time-management etc.
- Provide opportunities for consolidating previous learning or developing new skills which can support future learning
- Encourage students as they get older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently and prepare them for the next phase of education
- Provide opportunities for parents, carers, students and the school to work in partnership
- Provide opportunities for assessing and evaluating work that has previously been undertaken in the classroom
- Promote the use of the Student Planners as a means of planning work schedules

Key Stage 3

In KS3 the primary aim of homework is to support the development of key learning skills in all subjects, alongside key literacy and numeracy skills.

Each week students are set:

1. Reading (Accelerated Reader) homework task of approximately 30 minutes.
2. One Maths homework task of approximately 30 minutes.
3. Other homework from subjects under the limits shown below:

Key Stage 3	
Lessons Taught Per Week	Maximum Homework Time Per Week
1	15 minutes
2	20 minutes
3	25 minutes
4	30 minutes

- This time can be 'added up' so that if, for example, Citizenship (1 period per week) wanted to set a 4 week project they could expect students to spend an hour doing it, but the student **MUST** receive 4 weeks to do the project.
- In total this adds up to the 5 hours a week KS3 students should receive.

Key Stage 4

In KS4 the primary aim of homework is to support student's GCSE learning and exam preparation.

Each week students are set work from some/all of their subject areas under the limits shown below:

Key Stage 4	
Lessons Taught Per Week	Homework Time Per Week*
1	20 minutes
2	30 minutes
3	45 minutes
4	1 hour

*This may include after school sessions.

Guidelines for all homework

All teachers and departments should follow these guidelines;

- Homework tasks must be available to all students. If it is an online homework task, provision must be made for students to do it in school to counter the digital divide.
- Homework tasks must be referred to regularly by the teacher, whether set in that lesson or not.
- Teachers must ensure students write the homework task and the deadline date into their planners.
- Students must be able to access study support opportunities before school, during lunchtime and after school in order to complete homework tasks. The library is available, but opening a classroom can be more productive.
- At least one homework per half-term for Years 9-11 must be on GCSEPods.
- Wow points can be awarded to any students that complete work to an outstanding level.
- Students must receive appropriate feedback about how successful they have been in the homework task undertaken
- In KS3 students must have at least 5 school days to do a homework task.
- In KS4 students must have at least 3 school days to do a homework task.
- All homework tasks are compulsory, but in KS4 optional additional tasks may also be made available to students.
- All departments should develop their own specific homework policy based on the guidelines given above, but follow-ups to non-completion should be dealt with as below:

Non-completion

1. If a student does not complete a homework task on time or it is of inappropriate quality (at the teacher's discretion) they should be offered a short extension and given a warning that if they do not complete the task, they will be issued with a detention by the teacher.
2. Tutors and Heads of Year will monitor Class Charts for persistent offenders and take appropriate action.

Monitoring

- Subject Leaders must ensure the quality of all homework, that tasks are appropriate in length and challenge, and that the feedback given on completed homework tasks is of high quality.
- To support them, the SLT member responsible for homework will perform spot checks each half term.
- The SLT member responsible for homework will survey students to establish their perspective and take feedback on homework from parents.