



Homework Policy

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QUEEN'S PARK HIGH SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

RATIONALE

At Queen's Park High School, homework forms an integral part of our student's education. It serves to enhance the skills, knowledge and understanding which are essential for intellectual development.

PURPOSES

Homework is set in line with our policy to enable students to:

- Show progress and understanding
- Develop research skills
- Have an opportunity for independent work
- Enhance their study skills e.g. planning, time management and self discipline
- Take ownership and responsibility for their learning
- Engage parental co-operation and support
- Create channels for home school dialogue

GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS

When will homework be set?

For each Year Group, homework will be set according to a homework timetable which students receive at the start of the year. This timetable is for guidance only. It will state the number of homework tasks to be completed per subject per half term. Some subjects are now offering a menu style homework system where students can choose particular homework tasks to complete during a specified period of time. This may at times supersede the homework timetable. The most important thing is that homework is set appropriately to ensure student progress.

HOMEWORK TASKS

Homework tasks may involve the following:

- (i) **Read** (for enjoyment; for information and to extend learning)
- (ii) **Research** (to investigate ideas, develop enquiry and explore new thinking)
- (iii) **Revise** (to learn notes/diagrams/vocabulary/formulae for tests)
- (iv) **Record** (to describe, narrate, note or analyse in writing or another media)

- (v) **Recap** (to practise and reinforce skills learnt in lessons)
- (vi) **Review** (to reflect on what has been understood or learnt in lessons)
- (vii) **Other forms of study relevant** to the curriculum which may make for a rich and relevant approach to homework.
- (viii) **Completing classwork** - Whilst it is understood that teachers may, from time to time, set homework that requires students to complete work begun in class, this should not be a regular feature of homework setting as it can cause students to rush classwork or work at too slow a pace in lessons.

It is important that students should have frequent and increasing opportunities to develop and consolidate their competencies as independent learners.

ORGANISATION OF HOMEWORK

All students have a School Planner which they should carry with them at all times to record their homework. Tutors and parents/carers are asked to check and sign these on a weekly basis. Homework tasks should be written in to the planner as they are set, with a clear indication of the deadline for handing it in. If no homework is set by a teacher then this should also be recorded in the planner for monitoring purposes.

NON-COMPLETION OF HOMEWORK

When homework has not been done, appropriate action will be taken by the Curriculum area. This could include a break time, lunchtime or after-school detention. Parents/carers will be notified in advance of an after-school detention so they can make arrangements for their child to get home safely. The after-school detention will last no longer than one hour.

SCHOOL'S RESPONSIBILITIES WITH REGARDS TO HOMEWORK

The subject teacher is responsible for setting appropriate homework. S/he should check that students are recording details of homework set in their planners.

Curriculum Team Leaders are responsible for ensuring that all teachers in their Faculty are setting appropriate homework regularly. This should be checked as part of work sampling and the Faculty self-review process.

PARENTS'/CARERS' ROLE IN HOMEWORK

- Parents/carers should support students with their homework, but accept that their role will become less and less important as students become more responsible and independent

- Parents/carers should try to provide a reasonable place where students can work or encourage them to use the school facilities
- Parents/carers should encourage students to meet homework deadlines
- If parents/carers feel that insufficient or too much homework is being set, they should contact their child's form tutor in the first instance, who will investigate the situation
- Parents/carers should make it clear to students that they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help them progress
- Parents/carers should encourage students and praise them when work is completed

STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES

- Students should always carry their planners with them
- Students should record the homework set even if they have written it in detail in their exercise book
- Students need to meet deadlines
- Problems with homework should be resolved before the deadline. If necessary, students should see the member of staff concerned for help
- Students should take pride in doing their best and follow the school presentation policy

CONCLUSION

Students will achieve their potential by appropriate study in school which is supported at home. This policy seeks to involve students, parents/carers and school in achieving this aim.