Homework Policy

RATIONALE

Homework is work that is set to be done outside the timetabled curriculum and forms an integral part to a student's education at Tarporley High School & 6th Form College. It serves to enhance the skills, knowledge and understanding which are essential for intellectual development. For the policy to be successful there must be simple but precise procedures, which are understood, appreciated and adhered to by students, teachers and parents.

PURPOSES

Homework enables 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

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. A copy is also made available on the 'Learning Gateway'. This timetable is for guidance only and some variation may occur with regards to the day when homework is set in order to maximise learning.

As a guide, students should be set on average two or three homework tasks each day. The time that should be spent on these tasks varies according to Year Group as follows:

Year Group	Maximum time per task
7	Approximately 45 minutes
8	Approximately 45 minutes
9	Approximately 60 minutes
10	Approximately 90 minutes
11	Approximately 90 minutes
12/13	Up to 5 extra hours per subject per week

HOMEWORK TASKS

Homework can be:

- Independent learning
- Consolidation of work in class
- Practise – learning by doing
- Completion of coursework assignments
- Research
- Reading
- Interviews
- Drawing
- Using ICT
- Recording

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 Faculty. This could include a breaktime, 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 be collected safely from school. 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 and for marking it regularly. S/he should check that students are recording details of homework set in their planners.

Curriculum Leaders are responsible for ensuring that all teachers in their Faculty are setting appropriate homework regularly and marking it. This should be checked as part of the Faculty self-evaluation 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
- If students are absent, they need to find out what work they have missed and catch up on it. **Being away on a day that homework is set is not an excuse for not doing it**
- 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

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To be reviewed annually