



ALSOP HIGH SCHOOL

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## Homework Policy

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## **Rationale**

***"Homework is not an optional extra, but an essential part of a good education".***

The Education Endowment Fund underlines in its research how the regular setting of meaningful homework tasks can result in additional progress for secondary pupils (+5 months.)

At Alsop High School, we recognise that homework plays an integral role in the education of our pupils. It enhances learning, improves attainment, develops organisational skills and promotes independent learning. Homework reinforces the educational process and supports good habits that are essential for examination success and lifelong learning.

### **The purposes of our homework programme are:**

- To provide opportunities to support and reinforce learning.
- To allow for practise and consolidation of work done in class.
- To prepare for future assessment.
- To provide further formative assessment opportunities.
- To provide training for pupils in planning and time management.
- To encourage pupils to take some responsibility for their learning.
- To develop good study habits and routines.
- To provide opportunities for enrichment of work done in school.
- To provide opportunities for individualised effort and initiative.

### **In addition, homework provides:**

- Teachers with evidence for the evaluation of teaching and learning, progress and next steps.
- Parents with an opportunity to support and encourage their child to become more active partners in their child's journey through our school and promote family learning
- Pupils with opportunities to develop their interest in subjects beyond the confines of the classroom.

### **Setting and marking of homework**

Sixth Form students are expected to have developed sufficient independent study and self-organisation skills to be able to manage their workload and the completion of homework tasks.

- Homework timetables will be issued to students in Key Stage 3,4 and 5. Teachers, especially in Key Stage 3, must adhere to the published homework timetables to ensure this is manageable for pupils.

**The teacher must provide clear deadlines for completion on the day the homework is set.**

- At Alsop High School **Show my Homework** is the platform for setting and monitoring of homework. All homework must be published on the '**Show my Homework**' platform on **the day it is set in Key stage 3,4, and 5.** Teachers must update status of homework and state whether homework has been ***submitted, submitted late*** or ***not submitted*** on **the date it is due** to support pupil tracking.
- Students should be given a minimum of three days to complete homework tasks to ensure it is manageable for students. Eg. If homework is set on Tuesday, the earliest deadline for completion would be Friday.
- Homework must be planned for as an integral part of student learning. At Alsop High School, we expect this to focus on knowledge retrieval in KS3 to support student achievement and increase pupil confidence.
- Feedback should be provided to students and may take the form of a raw score, individual feedback or whole class feedback.
- In KS4, homework tasks should be set to support retrieval practice and exam practice. In subjects where Knowledge Organisers are being used, it is expected that these will form the basis for the majority of homework tasks.

**Frequency**

At KS3, homework will be set every week for core subjects (3+ lessons) every fortnight for EBACC subjects (2 lessons) and at least twice per half term for those subjects with one lesson per week. Students should be given a minimum of three days to complete the tasks set.

Homework tasks in Key Stage Three should focus on:

- Retrieval practice.
- Multiple choice questions to identify misconceptions
- The learning of key knowledge or vocabulary for mini tests to support subject specific literacy.

**KS3 Homework Timetable**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Weekly</b>	<b>Week A</b>	<b>Week B</b>	<b>Twice in half term period</b>
English	✓			
Maths	✓			
Science	✓			
History		✓		
Geography			✓	
Spanish			✓	
ICT				✓
Art				✓
Drama				✓
Music				✓
Design Technology				✓
PE				✓

At KS4, one hour of homework should be set every week for each exam subject with the expectation that students will be given minimum of three nights to complete the work set. Homework tasks in Key Stage Four should focus on:

- Retrieval practice.
- Examination questions.
- Reading comprehension tasks to reinforce what has already been taught.

No new material should be set as homework.

#### **KS4 Homework Timetable**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Weekly</b>
English	✓
Maths	✓
Science	✓
History	✓
Geography	✓
Spanish	✓
ICT	✓
Art	✓
Drama	✓
Music	✓
Design Technology	✓
Catering	✓
Sport	✓
Health and social care	✓
Photography	✓

#### **KS5 Homework timetable**

At Post-16 students should be set homework at least twice a week by each subject to contribute to their 5 hours of independent study per subject per week. It is expected that the homework set be in addition to the work undertaken independently in study periods. the expectation that they will also be given a minimum of three nights for completion as outlined above.

Examples of homework tasks in Key stage 5 may include:

- Retrieval practice.
- Examination questions.
- Reading comprehension tasks to reinforce what has already been taught.
- Essay questions.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Weekly</b>
Option 1	Two pieces set
Option 2	Two pieces set
Option 3	Two pieces set

The following time allocations are a guideline for homework, which should be set each week but may vary from week to week.

Year	Expected time allocation per homework
Years 7 and 8	30 mins per subject stated in homework timetable
Years 9, 10 and 11	1 hour per subject
Years 12 and 13	Minimum 2hrs hours per subject

### **Support**

Whilst many of the homework tasks can be completed on **Show My Homework**, downloadable copies of relevant material are available. These support the student's organisational skills but in the event that they cannot access the online task on **Show My Homework** then a paper copy can be submitted to the teacher. Additional support for students when completing homework can be found in the Learning Resource Centre, which is open to students at break time lunchtimes, and after school. Additional Homework Zones are also made available to support students with homework completion.