

Saffron Walden County High School



Homework Policy

Last Review - September 2024

Our homework curriculum is designed to support students to learn to be more independent in their studies as they progress through school. The curriculum is underpinned with the following objectives:

- The homework transition from year 6 to 7 is carefully planned and considers the step up to secondary school
- Homework is set under the homework principles and is centrally planned as part of the curriculum
- Feedback mechanisms allow subject leaders to understand the impact of homework on progress
- As students get older, homework tasks progressively model the independent learning they should be ready for by year 11-13
- Homework is set equitably to all abilities and groups

Our Homework Principles

Studies show that homework is effective if it is tightly linked with what has already been taught in the classroom. Quality of homework is more important than quantity. There are therefore three principles that underpin our homework curriculum as they align to this evidence:

- Practice
- Preparation
- Progress

Sharing these principles will help students to understand what skills they are developing as progressively independent learners. All applicable homework should be accessible on a phone or tablet and no homework should require printing. All homework should be recorded as an assignment on Teams with short, clear instructions, a deadline, and an expectation of how long it should take to complete.

Examples of Practice:

- Drafting a paragraph/ essay that has been planned in class
- Completing maths exercises that allow students to practise what has been learned in class
- Creating, using techniques modelled in class
- Answering questions from content covered in class

Examples of Preparation:

- Learning key vocabulary
- Revision of content, using modelled/ well taught revision techniques
- Memorising facts, using modelled/ well taught memorisation techniques
- Planning future work, after it has been discussed/taught in class

Examples of Progress:

- Completing coursework/Non-Examined Assessment
- Improving work, based on clear actionable feedback (Close-The-Gap)
- Reading texts or books

Homework allocation:

In years 7-10, no homework will be set to complete in the holidays.

Year 7: 5 hours per fortnight:

- 90 min a cycle for Maths
- 60 min a cycle for English
- 30 min a cycle for Science, French and German
- 60 min of Guided Reading

Year 8: 6.5 hours per fortnight:

- 120 min a cycle for Maths
- 60 min a cycle for English
- 30 min a cycle for Science, French, German Art and Tech
- 60 min of Guided Reading

Year 9: 8.5 hours per fortnight:

- 120 min a cycle for Maths
- 60 min a cycle for English
- 60 min a cycle for Science and MFL
- 30 min a cycle for History and Geography
- 30 min a cycle for each option subject
- 60 min of Guided Reading

Year 10: 10.5 hours per fortnight:

- 150 min a cycle for Maths
- 90 min a cycle for English and Science
- 60 min a cycle for each options subject

- 60 min of Guided Reading

Year 11: 15.5 hours per fortnight:

- 150 min a cycle for Maths, Science and English
- 90 min a cycle for all options subjects
- 60 min of Guided Reading

Concerns:

If a parent or student has concerns about the quantity or quality of homework being set in a particular subject, they should contact the subject teacher concerned or the Area Co-ordinator for that subject.

If a parent or student has concerns about the quantity or quality of homework across the curriculum, they should contact their child's Form Tutor, Year Achievement Coordinator or Student Support Officer.