

A GUIDE TO HOMEWORK FOR PARENTS AND CARERS



ST HILDA'S
CE HIGH SCHOOL

WISDOM

HOPE

COMMUNITY

DIGNITY

EQUALITY



Our Homework Aim

Extended learning opportunities should be meaningful, enjoyable and support learning.

Our Homework Promise

We will only set homework that is purposeful.


We will only set homework that supports student progress.

We will never set homework for the next day.

The information below is being provided in response to the feedback we received from the recent parent/carer survey regarding homework. The aim is to provide you with key information about the school's Homework Policy. We hope it will answer any questions you may have about the homework that your son or daughter will get at school.

A copy of the school's homework policy can be found on the school website.

What is the Purpose of Homework?



- Reinforce learning
- Recall retrieval
- Consolidate learning
- Fun
- Manipulation of vocab and key terms
- Stretch & challenge
- Application of knowledge
- Flipped learning – ideas to bring to the lesson
- Develop study skills
- Research and gathering information
- Embedding short term learning into the long term memory
- Practise practical skills
- Encourage independence
- Develop healthy private study habits
- Acquire greater knowledge and understanding
- Become independent enquirers



How long should my child spend on homework?

National Average

Year 7 & 8 = 45-90 minutes a day.

Year 9 = 60-120 minutes a day.

Year 10 & 11 = 90-150 minutes a day.

If your child is usually spending either far more time than this or far less, please draw the matter to our attention.

E-Learning

Your child will regularly be asked to complete homework and revision tasks that are ICT based. They will be given personal login details to access recommended subject specific websites. Further details of these websites can be found in individual subjects in the curriculum area of the school website or from the class teacher.

For general revision all students in year 7 - 13 have access to the online revision resource GCSE Pod. GCSE Pod contains highly concentrated, 3-5 minute burst of audio-visual learning and specialist subject knowledge for all curriculum areas. This is an excellent resource, particularly for students who like to revise on-the-go.

How can you help your child with homework?

The partnership between home and school can be clearly seen in the case of homework. Success depends upon both home and school providing support and encouragement to students. To support the partnership between students, parents and school, St Hilda's CE High school uses the Satchel One (Show My Homework) website to publish all homework. This can be accessed from a quick link on the school website homepage and an App can also be downloaded for individual student and parent devices. The school provides individual login details to all students and their parents in order that specific information relating to issued homework and deadlines is readily available. If you require a new copy of your login details please contact the school.

Your support as parents/carers is absolutely essential and we ask you most sincerely to take an interest in the standard and presentation of the work submitted.

Parents and carers can help staff and students by reading Satchel One every night and checking and looking through homework with students. If students regularly complete their homework to a high standard their academic results improve. A parent/carer can make a huge contribution to a child's future wellbeing by having high expectations with regard to the completion of homework to a high standard. Please help by providing a suitable study environment with the necessary resources; by taking an interest and by encouraging and praising the effort your child is making. For further information see 'Helping your child with their organisation' on our school website.



What might homework look like?

Independent revision

Online programme with structured tasks

Learning

Self-marked

Skill building – reading, listening, writing,

Research

Use of knowledge organiser

Practise of exam style questions

If a specific homework task has not been set on Satchel One students can be using their time working on revisiting and recalling work from previous lesson using knowledge organisers, BBC Bitesize, Oak Academy or the online revision programs provided by school.

Checklist of key things that parents/carers can do to support student progress?

Read Satchel One (Show My Homework).

Check if students have homework.

Check if students have done homework.

Ensure homework is completed to a good standard.

Support students but don't do the work for them.

Know what is happening in lessons, read the unit plan, knowledge organiser.

Encourage your child to talk about what is in their books and listen.

Support your child with research.

Support the school when there has been a lack of completion.

Buy revision guides/text (if your child is in receipt of free school meals we will support students in receiving these resources).

Watch the news, keep up to date with current affairs.

Test key information from knowledge organisers, spellings, key terms, key vocabulary.

Discuss work at home and take students to related places, beach, park etc.



The table below gives a more detailed indication of how you can help with specific tasks.

Type of Homework	Homework task	What can parents/carers do?
Learning	Task is to learn certain words, facts, details or rules.	Act as question master/mistress or a tester.
Completion	Work that has been introduced in school is to be completed at home.	Look at the whole piece of work and make useful comments/constructive criticism. Ask your child to explain what the whole task is about.
Finalising	Task to write up/finalise work done in school or write a finished version of rough work.	Again, look at the whole piece or, even better, talk about it briefly first, to get the work clearly ingrained in your child's mind and jog his/her memory.
Questions	Answer questions about a lesson's work.	Check their answers. Do they give the exact information wanted in the questions? Have they answered the questions using full sentences?
Research	Students are asked to find information on a given subject. Part of this homework might be done in the school library, in the student's own time.	Don't do it for them but encourage and help when they have difficulty. It is obviously better to suggest where they might find the information than find it for them.
Revision And Retrieval	Task to revisit and/or learn a section of work that has been recently completed or to prepare for a test or an examination.	Get your child to explain the work. Ask the questions once they are ready. You can even 'mark' the answers.
Pre-learning	Reading ahead using a knowledge organiser, revision guide or text book to get some ideas of what work is to come – and be ready for it.	Ask them to explain what they are doing in the subject at the moment; be interested in what he/she has found out.
Rough work	Students are asked to prepare for a lesson to come by putting ideas or information down on rough paper.	Suggest a starting point. Once finished, ask them to read the work to you. Even if it is rough remind them that the rules of spelling and punctuation still apply.

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Answers to key questions from the parent survey:

Can we have copies of the knowledge organiser booklets for use at home?

This year we have trialled the use of knowledge organisers during learn to learn lessons for the first time. The next stage of our plan is to share this with parents/carers from September.

How do I know if my child is doing their homework?

All homework can be seen by parents/carers on Satchel One (show My Homework). If a child does not complete homework this will be recorded on Synergy.

Why does my child get set work for the next day when they have out of school clubs?

We have asked staff to ensure that they do not set work with a 24 hour deadline.

My child becomes stressed at exam time. Can you help?

Through learn to learn lessons we are encouraging students to understand the importance of a 'little and often' approach to revision. We are working on developing better revision skills and organisation.



Answers to key questions from the parent survey (continued) :

My child has lost their copy of the homework timetable. Can they get another one?

We have reissued the timetable to all students and parents/carers.

We don't always get homework on the night it is shown on the homework timetable. Why is this?

The homework timetable is a guide to show the maximum number of pieces of homework your child will receive. Sometimes it is not suitable to set homework and students can complete independent revision/research instead.

Notes





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