



Notre Dame Plymouth

Homework Policy

Rationale

"Students who are successful at A level and at GCSE are those who have highly developed independent learning skills, have the capacity to lead the learning process through their questions and ideas and, crucially, are resilient and resourceful enough to get over the many humps along the way. A strong culture of homework in any class or school, is key to developing these skills"
Sherrington 2012

Homework comprises a series of tasks set to be completed outside the lesson. It should enable independent study to be completed without supervision of the teacher. Tasks should be well planned in order to ensure that it is an integral element of the learning process and consolidates or extends knowledge and skills, it is an important element in raising student achievement.

Not all homework needs to be done at home; in fact, for some students who find it hard to work at home, or for some tasks which may require resources more readily available at school it will be necessary or desirable to carry out the task in school.

Homework enhances student learning, improves achievement and develops students' study skills and as such must be recognised as an integral part of the curriculum.

Aims & Responsibilities

The role of the student

- Consolidate class learning
- Extend class learning or prepare for new learning activities
- Access resources not available within the classroom
- Develop independent research skills
- Create opportunities for independent study
- Demonstrate understanding and show progress
- Provide feedback in the evaluation of teaching
- Take ownership and responsibility for learning
- Engage parents support
- Develop channels for home school learning

The role of the Teacher

- To set homework with realistic deadlines appropriate to the task and in line with department policy
- Give full and comprehensive instructions
- Ensure deadlines are met and log non-completion of tasks in accordance with the school behaviour for learning policy
- Inform subject leaders and parents when an ongoing situation arises

The role of the parent/carer

- Regularly check planner to ensure homework tasks are completed
- Provided a suitable environment in which students can complete home learning
- Communicate with the school when problems arise



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- Take an interest in the nature of the work set encouraging students to complete tasks set and meet required deadlines
- Encourage quality work

Expectations

At Notre Dame we celebrate the diversity of our curriculum and recognise that each subject area is unique and as such may require a different approach to homework. Each department therefore has it's own policy outlining expectations and requirements of home learning tasks.

At KS3 students would be expected to complete 1 hour per week of homework for each core subject with 30 minutes per week for all other subjects

At KS4 students should be completing one hour per week of homework for each examination subject

At KS5 independent study sessions allow students to complete a minimum of 4 hours per week of learning additional to the lesson, for each subject undertaken.

Assessment

Staff may use a wide range of assessment techniques relating to homework tasks set, these might include:

- WWW/EBI (What Went Well/Even Better If)
- Peer & self assessment
- Questioning

Sanctions

When homework is not completed teachers should initially support the student to ensure the task set met the students needs, if this is so then sanctions should be used.

Class teacher: Recorded on SIMS/Detention set/Recorded in planner.

Repeat failure to complete homework should be referred to the head of subject who will issue a subject detention and inform home.

Tutors should look to identify students who appear to have homework issues across several curriculum areas and intervene accordingly.

Incentives

High quality homework and a good work ethos should be sensitively praised. Exceptional work should be rewarded using departmental procedures.

By order of the Governing Body of Notre Dame School

Policy first adopted by Governors Standards Committee: 14th September 2016

Review Term: 3 Yearly

Review Date: 14th September 2016..... Signed Chair of Standards

Next Review: September 2019