



Key Stage 3 Home Learning Policy

Date Reviewed: July 2019

Date Policy Approved:

Next Review Date: July 2020

Rationale:

Why is homelearning important?

Homelearning is valuable for the following reasons:

1. It can help pupils to make more rapid progress in achievement and attainment.
2. It can allow pupils to develop the practice of working on their own without the constant presence of the teacher. This way of working is vital at the later stages of secondary education and after.
3. It can allow valuable practice of skills learned in the classroom to be consolidated.
4. It can allow pupils to use materials and other sources of information that are not always available in the classroom.
5. It can involve parents and others in the pupils' work for their mutual benefit. .
6. This gives pupils valuable experience of working to deadlines and facilitates staff with their marking schedules.
7. It forms a link with the methods of study crucial to success at Secondary School.
8. It provides pupils with valuable life skills that are required in further education or work situations.

Implementation:

The PREP framework

P(Preparation)R (Revision) E(Extension) P(Play)

Our PREP framework (Preparation-Revision-Extension-Play) provides a clear and more consistent approach to home learning and assessment across the school. Their home learning tasks will fit into the following areas:

The **Preparation** strand is designed to develop research and independent skills as well as to enhance pupils' learning and achievement. By preparing at home, these tasks will allow you to focus class time on their understanding before embarking on a new topic. By partaking in their own learning, they will be able to own the knowledge they gather to help take responsibility and develop their confidence.

The **Revision** strand is designed to develop revision skills by embedding knowledge and understanding of topics covered previously. By tackling revision in such a way, the importance of grit, responsibility and a variety of thinking skills when completing tasks will be highlighted. These tasks will be marked on-line or in class through assessment style activities.

The **Extension** strand is designed to stretch and challenge. Extension activities allow pupils to apply new knowledge to the next level and to ensure new opportunities are taken to enhance high achievement. They also offer the opportunity for each pupil to have their own educational experiences. These tasks will either be peer-assessed, self-assessed, marked online or in class (dependent on nature of tasks set).

The **Play** strand is designed to allow pupils to enjoy their learning and create opportunities for themselves. These tasks will not be marked but celebrated in class and around school.

Each homelearning task will challenge pupils' academic knowledge within each subject whilst allowing pupils to focus on enhancing each branch of the GROWTH model. The homelearning will be specific to each pupils' academic ability and support will be available for those pupils who require it.

Each department will have their own timetable to show when these elements of PREP are set. These will be on the website and updated termly.

Numeracy and Literacy

In line with the school's whole school priorities, a weekly 'Mymaths' piece of home learning will be issued and two sessions on 'Bedrock Vocabulary' will be set by the English department. This is done online via a pupil's individual login details provided at the start of the academic year.

'Mymaths'

Mymaths provides a support package to ensure understanding and clarification of the work previously learnt within class time.

'Bedrock Vocabulary'

Bedrock Vocabulary Bedrock Vocabulary is an online programme that helps pupils learn new vocabulary that they will come across in books, lessons and exams. The best way to learn new words is to revisit them over a period of time and each Bedrock lesson is made accessible to pupils' every 48 hours allowing them to space out their learning.

How does the school help to support pupil's homework?

- a). Each pupil is given a pupil planner at the beginning of the year.
- b). It is the responsibility of pupils to record deadlines in their planner. We normally give up to a week to complete work, however the class teacher may extend if they deem it necessary.
- c). Students will receive constructive feedback, in order to develop their skills and knowledge in line with the specific aspect of PREP.
- e) Students can access the ARK at lunch and after school to complete home learning tasks.

How can parents or carers help with home learning?

- a). Check that details are filled in clearly and regularly in the school planner. There is space here for your regular signature.
- b). Be aware of the department tasks on the website and help your son / daughter organise his or her time to best advantage so that things are not all left to the last minute or even forgotten.
- c). Try to make sure that there are suitable working conditions at home.
- d). Take a positive and active interest in your son / daughter's work at home rather than just insisting that it is done.
- e). If there are problems with completing your task on time, please speak to the class teacher who has set the task.

Inability to complete homework

Dates for the handing in of homework will be given clearly by the teacher at the time of setting homework. We expect work to be completed and handed in on time. This gives pupils valuable experience of working to deadlines and facilitates staff with their marking schedules.

If this is not completed appropriate action is taken:

- The class teacher will have a discussion with the pupil to find out if there are good reasons for failure to complete the work;
- The class teacher may contact the parents / carers
- A record will be made on ClassCharts
- Pupils will be expected to complete the homework during their lunch or after school of that day. This is at the class teacher's preference.