



Homework Policy

Committee Responsible	CS&I
Member of Staff Responsible	Mrs A Thomson
Regularity of Review	Annually
This Version Dated	January 2017
Next Review Due	January 2018

Rationale

Swanmore College recognise that homework plays a valuable part in a pupil's education and the time spent studying at home makes a significant contribution to the progress a pupil can make. It offers the opportunity for pupils to learn in a different context and use different resources from those in school. Homework is also an opportunity for parents and carers to support their child with learning.

Practice

All pupils will be set homework where and when it complements the work they are doing in college and the study skills they need to develop. The type and length of homework set will therefore vary according to requirements. Pupils should do their homework at home or in college after 3pm at 'Homework Club'. Pupils need to address homework with a proper commitment and we ask parents to support their children and the college in seeing that homework is done well and handed in by the deadline.

At Swanmore College we believe homework is important because it:

- encourages pupils to develop the skills, confidence and motivation needed to study effectively on their own. This is vital given the importance of independent study for pupils for their future of lifelong learning and adaptability;
- consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding developed in lessons;
- extends learning, for example through additional reading/ research;
- sustains the involvement of parents and carers in the management of pupils' learning and keeps them informed about the work their child is doing;
- helps pupils to manage particular demands, such as GCSE controlled assessment.

The type of homework set varies considerably between the many subjects taught and the different age range of the pupils. Each subject has its own specific homework policy and gives specific guidance to pupils on homework expectations. At KS3 some subjects will set a mix of extended project based work and shorter tasks. Details of this can be found on the

college website, including links to associated resources on 'Show my homework' or the VLE. At KS4 each subject sets specific homework to ensure examination content is understood and revised. Details of this can be found in the 'KS4 Homework Parents Guide' available on the college website.

Not all homework is necessarily written work, examples could include any or all of the following:

- Practising classroom learned skills
- Research work, often involving ICT
- Reading
- Revision exercises
- Drawing maps, graphs, diagrams, pictures etc.
- Making models
- Collecting ingredients or materials
- Learning spellings or keywords
- Completing coursework or preparing for controlled assessment tasks

How much homework should my child be doing?

This question is asked very frequently and is extremely difficult to answer. Just like adults, individual pupils spend varying amounts of time to complete the same task(s). However, generally we would expect:

- Year 7/8: No less than 40 minutes and no more than 90 minutes per working day.
- Year 9: No less than 45 minutes and no more than 2 hours per working day.
- Year 10/11: KS4 pupils need to manage many personal study and revision commitments and they will need to incorporate some weekend study time into their schedule. Experience shows us that those KS4 pupils who commit 10 hours per week to home study, make the best progress. Studying for more than 2.5 hours on any one evening is not recommended and so KS4 pupils do need to be well organised in planning their study time.

Monitoring including Roles & Responsibilities

The SLT Link will:

- participate in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the whole school Homework Policy;
- ensure homework remains a high priority for all subject leaders through line management and quality assurance processes;
- ensure all staff have access to Show my homework training and are using Show my homework appropriately;
- ensure that the analysis of Show my homework reports inform evaluation and improvement.

Whole School Responsibilities

The role of the Subject Leader:

- To plan, implement and evaluate a departmental homework policy in line with the whole school policy;
- To showcase examples of best practice in homework and its assessment during departmental time;
- To collate quality assurance evidence on homework including the use of pupil voice to support effect evaluation and improvement planning;
- To monitor Show my homework reports to evaluate frequency and quality of homework set as well as teacher performance.

The role of the Subject Teacher:

- To ensure that each pupil clearly understands the homework task. Pupils should be aware of any assessment criteria (if appropriate);
 - To make every effort to make homework tasks accessible to all pupils in terms of availability of materials, the feasibility of carrying out research and the allocation of an appropriate timescale;
 - To ensure homework (where appropriate) is assessed either through self, peer or teacher assessment in accordance with the school assessment policy;
 - To set revision homework prior to module tests and examinations (at the discretion of the Subject Teacher);
 - To recognise outstanding homework through the system of House Points;
 - To follow up when a pupil misses a homework deadline through the system of sanctions.
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- Parents** will encourage their children to access Show my homework and have online access to this too. We welcome parental support if your child needs help with their homework; but please do not do the homework for her/ him.
 - Pupils** will take increasing responsibility for planning their time at home and completion of homework tasks. All pupils should be using their personalised online log in for Show my homework and using the timings set by the teacher for homework tasks as a guide to ensure adequate completion/ effort.
 - Governors** will receive feedback on homework through the regular SEF Update and Headteacher Feedback at Full Governing Body Meetings.

Linked Policies

- Assessment
- Teaching and Learning