



Homework Policy

At Driffield School and Sixth Form our intention is to create a culture that promotes a love of learning, which encourages students to think, question and develop as independent learners. The effective setting of homework along with diagnostic feedback from staff, which students then respond to, is an essential element of any such culture.

- Homework should be used to prepare for, consolidate and/or further learning. There are a wide range of potential types/ styles that can be effectively utilised and departments need to provide clear guidelines on such issues for all staff.
- Practical subjects (such as Performing Arts) are expected to seek opportunities to enable students to extend their learning beyond the classroom, where possible.

At Key Stage 3 and 4, departments take a variety of approaches to enable homework to be set, in a way which best suits the needs of the students and the subject being studied.

Where practicable, homework at **Key Stage 3** is set by departments according to the guidance below.

| Department | Homework |
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| Art | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 4 pieces of homework will be set and marked each term • Homework will consist of an observational drawing task, a research task, plus other tasks appropriate to the scheme of work, to extend and consolidate learning • Approximately 1 hour should be spent on each homework task |
| English | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The English department will set 40 minutes of homework per week • Homework tasks may involve discussing, reading, writing, viewing, and thinking about activities in order to prepare or consolidate the learning taking place in the classroom. • This may be supplemented by other activities to support or extend the learning taking place. |
| Design Technology | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are expected to complete 1 hour of homework per fortnight. This may be divided into two weekly homework tasks of 30 minutes duration. |
| Geography | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homework is set once per fortnight to all students at KS3 • Work will be set using the tasks in the departmental homework booklet. • Tasks will either be completed in the booklet or on separate paper and then stuck into the booklet/ exercise books • Students are expected to spend up to 40 minutes on their homework, per fortnight |
| History | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homework is set at least once per fortnight to all students at KS3 • Each year group will undertake extended learning projects in each year group (each lasting half a term) • Guidance for timing whilst completing projects = 30 - 40 mins per week • Yr 7 :Term 1 = Castles • Yr 8 :Term 2 = Dragon's Den Industrial Revolution • Yr 8 :Term 3 = WW1 project • Yr 9 : Term 1 = Jack the Ripper • Yr 9 :Term 3 = WW2 Family project • Guidance for completing non-project homework tasks = 30 mins Y7, 60mins Y8, 90 mins (minimum) Y9, over a fortnight. |
| Computer Science | Students will be given homework on average once every 3 lessons (3 weeks). Each task should take no longer than 30 minutes to complete. |

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| Maths | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework will be set once a week lasting approximately 30 - 60 minutes. The majority of assignments will be online tasks set through alfielcloud or mymaths and the class teacher may want to supplement this with a written assignment. Feedback from homework performance as well as opportunities to master topics will be printed off and provided in exercise books. |
| MFL (French & Spanish) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework is set usually once per week – Approximately 20-30 minutes Occasionally students may be asked to complete longer projects |
| PE | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twice a week students are reminded about and given the opportunities to do the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of correct and full PE kit Wider reading and viewing of sports and coaching websites Extra-curricular activities, including afterschool and lunchtime clubs Planning warm ups and cool downs These activities should take approximately 20-30 minutes per week |
| Performing Arts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occasional homework is set throughout the year to support the work completed in class Opportunities for students to extend their learning are provided throughout the year (e.g. school performances, bands etc.) – please visit the Performing Arts block to find out about the full range of opportunities |
| Ethics (Y7/8) RE (Y9) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All homework leads towards assessment. Homework is set once every 4th lesson and is recorded in students' planners. It is recommended that students spend between 20-40 minutes on each piece of homework. During a short absence students are expected to catch up on work missed. |
| Science | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formalised tasks will be set once per fortnight. Students should spend between 40-60 minutes on these. |

During the build up to both internal and external exams, staff are expected to only set homework that is designed to directly aid students in their preparations. Furthermore, staff discretion and flexibility should be applied to students involved in whole school activities such as productions.

Where practicable, homework at **Key Stage 4** is set by departments according to the guidance below.

| Subject | Homework |
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| Fine Art Graphics | Homework is set fortnightly and students are expected to spend 2 hours per week to complete each set task. Homework may be independent research at the start of a project or practical work. |
| Business | Students will receive homework which accompanies each of the sub-topic areas of Units 1 and 2. Students will be given at least one in-depth piece of homework every 2 weeks. In addition there may also be independent research/tasks to complete on a weekly basis. In-depth homework will be marked with feedback given to students within a 2 week time period. |
| Computer Science | Students will be given a homework book which accompanies each of the sub-topic theory areas of Unit A451. Homework will be marked and feedback will be given within a 2 week time period. In addition, students will be given a Code Academy log on, to complete a series of lessons at home in order to develop their Python programming skills. Students are therefore likely to have at least one hour of homework to complete each week. |
| Dance | Students will be expected to complete a minimum of 8 hours independent practice/rehearsal for each of the four practical assessed elements of the course. As well as the time given in class to work on practical pieces, students are encouraged to spending time planning for these pieces, using the PA studios. Written assignments in preparation for the written exam will be set when necessary. |
| Design Technology Food | Homework is set weekly until controlled assessment begins after Easter of Year 10. During the controlled assessment period, homework will focus on research and design ideas. This will be followed by planning practical activities and written evaluations. Exam preparation commences during March of Year 11 |

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| Product design and Resistant Materials | Homework is either set weekly or as an extended task. Some tasks are not evidenced homework i.e. students may be asked to look at something which relates to the following lesson. During the controlled assessment period from January of year 11, homework will focus on research and design ideas that are related to their project. Exam preparation commences during January of year 11 and students will be expected to revise for regular tests. |
| Textiles | During year 10, homework is set weekly as an extension of the lesson. In Year 11 students are asked to complete controlled assessment sheets as part of their homework. Students are made aware of all deadlines. The students' final project must be completed by the end of February in Year 11. Exam preparation commences during March. Throughout the course, students will also complete exam questions. |
| BTEC: (Jamie Oliver Award in Home Cooking Skills) | There will be an expectation for students to participate in the shopping and weighing/preparation of ingredients at home for practical lessons. Students will be expected to complete written tasks at home if not finished in the lesson. |
| Drama | The expected homework is that students will put in the required rehearsal time to complete their practical assessments. Written tasks in preparation for the exam will be a set every two weeks. |
| English | Class teachers set homework to support and expand learning in their lessons. It is set every week and students should spend 40 minutes on each task. |
| French | Students will be set 1 hour of homework every week. This might be set as 1 long task or 2 shorter tasks. Homework tasks could include: learning vocabulary, reading exercises or preparing / learning passages for the controlled assessments in speaking and writing. Students should also make regular use of websites to improve their standards (e.g. Kerboodle, quizlet, linguascope). |
| Geography | Homework is set and marked fortnightly and students are expected to spend 45-60 minutes on each piece of homework, which will usually be the completion of past exam papers from the homework booklets. During the summer term of Year 10, formal homework tasks are suspended and students are expected to devote at least one hour per week to completing their controlled assessment (fieldwork project). In addition to regular homework, students are expected to spend at least an hour a week, revising the subject and this can be supported by the use of GCSEPod |
| Health and Social Care | Homework will be set as and when appropriate. |
| History | In History, students will be expected to complete 1 - 2 hours per week, according to the guidelines below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During Controlled Assessment, students will be asked to complete independent research on the topic. It will vary as to when and how often but will be at least one piece per week. • During American West content, students will normally be asked to complete past exam questions as homework. Again this will vary as to when and how often, approximately once a fortnight. Students will also be asked to revise for end of unit assessments. • During the Medicine Through Time unit, students will normally be asked to complete past exam questions as homework. Again this will vary as to when and how often, approximately once a fortnight, as appropriate. They will also be asked to revise for End of Unit Assessments. Additionally students will be asked to complete questions on set topics approximately once/twice per week. |
| Maths | Homework will be set at least once a week lasting approximately 45 mins - 90 mins (dependent on task). Tasks will be a range of: online tasks set through alfielcloud, mymaths or methodmaths, written tasks set by teachers and exam papers. Feedback regarding performance as well as opportunities to master topics will be printed off and provided in exercise books. |
| Media | Unit 2 Assignment 3 - Print production will require independent research and planning to be completed at home. Unit 4 – responding to a media brief is largely independent work and requires substantial research and planning to be completed in your own time. |
| Music | The expected homework is that students will put in the time and commitment to meet their coursework deadlines. Coursework assignments are substantial pieces of work. Students will be given listening and reading assignments to support their preparation for the listening exam. |

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| PE | Homework is on-going through each practical activity, linking theoretical and practical content. Revision for end of unit tests will take every half term. Topic based extended learning is provided as and when necessary. |
| RE | Students will be set 1 hour of homework every week. This might be set as 1 long task or 2 shorter tasks. Homework tasks could include: learning keywords, revision for end of unit assessment, exam questions or research. |
| Science | Students taking dual and triple science are taught by 2/3 science teachers. Each subject leader has selected core homework tasks which are set by all teachers. Each member of staff will set homework as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dual Groups: once per fortnight. • Triple Groups: once per week. These times may vary around exam periods and the completion of ISAs. Each homework should take between 30 - 60 minutes. |
| Spanish | Students will be set 1 hour of homework every week. This might be set as 1 long task or 2 shorter tasks. Homework tasks could include: learning vocabulary, reading exercises or preparing / learning passages for the controlled assessments in speaking and writing. Students should also make regular use of websites to improve their standards (e.g. Kerboodle, quizlet, linguascope). |

Within Departments, handbooks contain clear policy/practice that reflects the following whole school guidance:

Teachers should:

1. Ensure that clear instructions are given for all homework and that students understand the nature and purpose of the task;
2. Ensure that tasks set are appropriate to the students' abilities;
3. Ensure that adequate time is given for completion of homework;
4. Ensure that relevant feedback is given promptly.

Monitoring and evaluation

- The monitoring of the setting of homework in Departments is the responsibility of Heads of Department who will need to determine how this can best be achieved. Curriculum areas should agree and apply clear and consistent systems for promoting the need for high quality homework that is handed in on time
- Teaching staff and tutors need to work closely with their students to ensure the effective use of planners to promote better organisation and clear communication with parents/carers (see further details below)
- The Curriculum Assistant Headteacher (student achievement and progress) has the responsibility of overseeing the bigger picture across Key Stages 3 & 4 and identifying any particular patterns or issues
- All SLT have a role in helping to monitor the situation across the whole school

Student Planners

Every student is given a **Planner** at the start of the school year. These represent a significant investment and need to be used to good effect. Students must record in their planner brief details of all homework that is set. On those occasions when no homework is set, students should record '**none set**' in their planner.

Tutors should ensure all tutees are aware of the importance of bringing planners to all lessons. Weekly planner checks should also be carried out to monitor the level of use and signed by parents/carers. Teaching staff should actively support this by both encouraging students to record relevant information, and using the planners as a method of communication with home. Where necessary, teaching staff will need to liaise with tutors to resolve individual problems. Within this context, Parents are expected to:

1. Support the school by emphasising the importance of homework,
2. Read and sign their child's student planner weekly,
3. Ensure as far as possible that their child completes homework,
4. Provide, if possible, somewhere quiet to study.

With the necessary support and guidance from staff and parents/ carers, students should be better equipped for succeeding in their homework and further their overall learning.