



**DRIFFIELD
SCHOOL
& SIXTH FORM**

Homework Policy

Version 3.0

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| Name of Responsible Committee/Individual: | Local Governing Body |
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| Related Documents: | |

Aims

At Driffield School and Sixth Form, our intention is to create a culture that promotes a love of learning; encouraging our students to enquire, question and develop as independent learners. The effective setting of homework is an essential element of any such culture.

Our homework policy is intended to establish the school's commitment to homework as an aid to student learning and continuous improvement. Homework can be any activity that is related to the school curriculum which students undertake in addition to their timetabled lessons. These activities can take many different forms including written tasks, exam practice, research, creative activities, reading or using web-based resources such as MathsWatch. All homework set is intended to help students to consolidate previous learning or prepare for future learning.

Expectations

- The amount of homework that is, or should be, set by teachers is often a matter of dispute and it is difficult to define exact amounts or time to be spent as this will vary according to topics, the speed at which the student works and the nature of the task.
- We expect teachers to take into account the varying needs of students when setting homework. By doing this, they will ensure that the homework is appropriate to the needs of each student to enable every student the chance to succeed.
- All teachers should ensure that clear instructions are given for all homework and that students understand the nature and purpose of the task.
- In addition to specific homework tasks set, students should be aware that as a basic requirement they should check their exercise books to ensure that classroom tasks have been completed and all teacher feedback has been responded to. Students should also read through their notes to ensure that they have understood the concepts covered in lessons. This ensures that a student always has some independent learning they can do at home.
- Parents and carers can support the school by encouraging students to complete independent reading (for example a novel or newspaper) as this is invaluable in promoting effective use of language, sentence construction and spelling, as well as improving general knowledge and generating intellectual curiosity.
- Homework tasks set by teachers are compulsory and the school's expectation is that all students will complete homework tasks on time and to the best of their ability. Non-completion of homework will result in a sanction in line with the school's Behaviour Policy.
- Students and parents/ carers should be aware that the completion of homework, and the student's attitude and commitment to it, will contribute to the student's overall academic record and form part of their assessment and school report.
- To provide students with a quiet place where they can complete homework in school should they wish, Homework Club runs every day at lunchtime. Homework Club is open to students from all year groups and details can be found on the form programme and posters displayed around school.

Guidelines for Departments

- To ensure homework being set is consistent and manageable, subjects should set homework in accordance with our homework timetable (Appendix A). The homework timetable outlines by week (week A or week B), by year group and by population band, when students should be set homework for their different subject areas.
- The school curriculum allocates more time to core subjects and homework activities should also reflect this. Therefore English, Maths and Science will occupy a higher proportion of students' independent learning than their other subjects.

- Core subjects will set a constructive homework task once a week at all key stages. The format of this will be decided by the department but the setting and deadline days will depend on the individual student's timetable.
- In KS3, the English department will regularly set reading as a homework. Staff encourage students to exchange books regularly when they visit the school's library every other week during their English lessons.
- Where subjects have less timetable allocation than core subjects, they will set homework in accordance with the school's homework timetable.
- Some subject areas, in particular at KS3, such as art, music, drama and PE may only have a timetable allocation of one period per class per week. These subjects are not included in the homework timetable. However, students can still attend related clubs for example art club, various sports clubs, etc. should they wish to further enrich their studies in any of these subject areas.
- It is not always appropriate for subjects to set paper-based tasks but students should be set tasks that enable them to practise skills or carry out research and teachers should check the completion of these set tasks and use them to assess progress.
- Feedback, which may be written or verbal, needs to be timely so that students can see that their efforts are acknowledged and worthwhile. This means that departments and teachers should establish a routine for delivering feedback so that time is allocated for follow up where appropriate and in line with their departmental marking policies.
- Teachers should actively seek to reward a student's efforts for high quality homework whenever possible. This could be achieved for example using reward stamps in student planners.

Recording of Homework

Student Planners

Every student is given a planner at the start of the school year and these are invaluable as an organisation tool for the students and as a method of communication between school and home. Students must record all homework that is set in their planner.

Tutors should make tutees aware of the importance of bringing planners to all lessons and classroom teachers must ensure all students have their planners open on their desks every lesson. Weekly checks will be carried out to monitor the level of use of planners.

Within this context, parents and carers are encouraged to:

- Support the school by emphasising the importance of homework
- Read their child's planner weekly or check EduLink One (see below)
- Ensure, as far as possible, that their child completes homework
- Provide, if possible, somewhere quiet to study

EduLink One

All homework that is set is now recorded by the class teacher on EduLink One and, where appropriate, any attachments will be included. This app will enable parents and carers to support their child more effectively by being able to check the details of any tasks set, including the deadline that the homework is due in.

Monitoring and evaluation

- The monitoring of the setting of homework in departments is the responsibility of Subject Leaders. Curriculum areas should agree and apply clear and consistent systems for setting high quality homework.
- Leaders will regularly check a planner sample and EduLink One, reporting any issues raised by this to the relevant Subject Leader, who will follow these up with individual staff where necessary.

Appendix A

Homework Timetable

Year 7 X half

| Week A | Week B |
|------------------|----------------|
| Maths | Maths |
| English | English |
| Science | Science |
| MFL | MFL |
| <i>Computing</i> | <i>History</i> |
| <i>DT</i> | <i>RS</i> |
| <i>Geography</i> | |

Year 7 Y half

| Week A | Week B |
|----------------|------------------|
| Maths | Maths |
| English | English |
| Science | Science |
| MFL | MFL |
| <i>History</i> | <i>Computing</i> |
| <i>RS</i> | <i>DT</i> |
| | <i>Geography</i> |

Year 8 X half

| Week A | Week B |
|----------------|------------------|
| Maths | Maths |
| English | English |
| Science | Science |
| MFL | MFL |
| <i>History</i> | <i>Computing</i> |
| <i>RS</i> | <i>DT</i> |
| | <i>Geography</i> |

Year 8 Y half

| Week A | Week B |
|------------------|----------------|
| Maths | Maths |
| English | English |
| Science | Science |
| MFL | MFL |
| <i>Computing</i> | <i>History</i> |
| <i>DT</i> | <i>RS</i> |
| <i>Geography</i> | |

Year 9 X half

| Week A | Week B |
|------------------|------------------|
| Maths | Maths |
| English | English |
| Science | Science |
| MFL | MFL |
| <i>Computing</i> | <i>Geography</i> |
| <i>History</i> | <i>RS</i> |
| <i>DT</i> | |

Year 9 Y half

| Week A | Week B |
|------------------|------------------|
| Maths | Maths |
| English | English |
| Science | Science |
| MFL | MFL |
| <i>Geography</i> | <i>Computing</i> |
| <i>RS</i> | <i>History</i> |
| | <i>DT</i> |

Year 10/11

| Week A | Week B |
|---------------|---------------|
| Maths | Maths |
| English | English |
| Science | Science |
| MFL | MFL |
| Option A* | Option B* |
| Option C* | Option D* |

* if not MFL