



## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

Date of review: November 2023  
Next review date: November 2024  
Staff responsible for policy: CEM

# HOMEWORK POLICY

## 1. Principles of the policy

Our policy is based on 3 main principles:

- Homework should allow students to work independently to reinforce what has been learned at school, develop new ideas, retrieval practice or prepare for learning activities in school.
- Homework should engage and challenge the student and be appropriate to their ability.
- Homework should develop skills, attributes, and knowledge. It should support understanding and attainment in relation to the National Curriculum Programmes of Study (KS3/4) or subject specific examination criteria.

## 2. The definition of homework

Homework is the term used to represent all work outside the normal learning and teaching timetable. It includes work done at home, in extra-curricular activities and learning opportunities beyond the boundaries of the school buildings and the school day.

## 3. The purpose of the policy is:

All students should have structured opportunities to extend their learning away from the day-to-day class-based activities. All teachers should provide opportunities for all learners which supports their overall achievement and development as a learner. We expect learners to be prepared for learning when they come to school and to complete homework when they are asked.

## 4. Summary of key points

Homework is logged on Microsoft Teams as an 'assignment,' meaning that:

- It is visible to students in their myDSHS app (and the web version available at [my.droitwichspahigh.worcs.sch.uk](http://my.droitwichspahigh.worcs.sch.uk))
- It is visible to parents in the Arbor Parent app (and the web version).

Logging homework digitally does not mean the task needs to be completed on a computer. In fact, we would still expect that most of the homework is completed in exercise books etc. However, a teacher may set an activity that gives students the opportunity to respond digitally e.g., completing an online quiz, a digital worksheet and submitting it back through Microsoft 365 etc.

### Subject differences.

Due to the varied demands of different subjects and the personal needs of each student homework is provided in a variety of ways appropriate to each department based upon the demands and the nature of the subject. Queries should be directed to the head of department who organises learning within each department.

Assessment and feedback of homework may take various forms:

- i) The teacher may mark the work and give advice as to how it may be improved. A grade or a mark will not always be awarded.
- ii) Some tasks will be to prepare for external tests and exams and as such students will receive feedback based upon performance and a grade.

- iii) The teacher may provide verbal feedback if this is appropriate to the task.
- iv) Sometimes students will have the opportunity to assess their own work and that of others.

### What happens when students do not complete homework?

Failure to hand in homework on time and/or with sufficient quality will be logged in Arbor. Repeated cases will also be logged with the expectation that an appropriate sanction will be applied. For example, teachers /departments may detain students at break or lunchtime if homework has not been completed and/or contact the child's parents/carers. Failure to complete homework will also be reflected in the grades that teachers report to parents each term for readiness.

Below is an approximate guide to the frequency of homework for each Year group.

Key Stage 3 (Years 8 & 9)	
Subject	Amount and frequency of homework
English	30 minutes to 60 minutes per week
Mathematics	30 minutes to 60 minutes per week
Science	30 minutes to 60 minutes per week
Geography	30 minutes to 60 minutes per fortnight
History	30 minutes to 60 minutes per fortnight
Art	30 minutes to 60 minutes per fortnight
French/German	30 minutes per week
Design and Technology	30 minutes per week
Music	20 minutes per week as appropriate
Drama	20 minutes per week
ICT	1 per half term (open ended)
Religious Education	20 minutes per week
Citizenship	20 minutes per week

Key Stage 4 (Years 10 & 11)	
Subject	Amount and frequency of homework
English	60 minutes per week
Mathematics	60 minutes per week
Science	60 minutes per week
Religious Education	30 minutes per week
Optional Subjects	30 minutes to 90 minutes per week

Key Stage 5 (Years 12 & 13)
Students should be doing at least 4-5 hours private study/homework per week for each subject they study.

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The School's Data Protection Officer is the *Governance Manager* who can be contacted at Droitwich Spa High School and Sixth Form Centre, Briar Mill, Droitwich, WR9 0AA or by email at [privacy@droitwichspahigh.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:privacy@droitwichspahigh.worcs.sch.uk)