



City of Armagh High School

Mainstream
Homework Policy

2020/2021

Rationale

This policy has been produced on the information gathered from consultation with parents, pupils and staff. It has also been based on government guidelines which emphasise the importance of homework and how it helps children to learn.

Homework is important in raising student achievement and is work that is set to be done outside the timetabled curriculum. It encourages independent study that is not directly supervised by a teacher.

Homework should enhance pupils' learning, improve their achievement and develop their study skills.

The Purpose of Homework

The purpose of homework is to:

- Help the student to revisit and reflect on work that has taken place in the classroom, or to encourage further reflection by extending the school curriculum
- Enhance academic achievement by developing student skills such as self-organisation and self-discipline
- Supplement what is currently being covered in the class, and may involve recollection of data covered in class, or creation of a piece of work based on guidelines by the teacher
- Develop the home/school partnership

Expectations

Incentives

- High quality homework and a good work ethos will be praised in class
- Where appropriate, homework will be included in display work
- Merits and rewards for achievement and sustained effort may be awarded for good homework
- For exceptional pieces of homework, a department letter or postcard may be sent home

Sanctions

1. Class teacher
 - a. If there is not a reasonable attempt at homework, it will be recorded in the homework tracker in the diary for parents/guardian to sign
 - b. Two incomplete homeworks in each class will result in departmental detention

2.

No reasonable attempt at homework	Sanction
3	Text home
6	Phone call home
9	Referral to Head of Year and homework report issued

3. Year Head

- a. Following referral, diaries will be monitored, identifying students with homework problems across several departments
- b. Parents may be invited in to discuss issues with regards to homework
- c. Homework report issued
- d. Facilitate compulsory attendance at homework club (Tuesdays and Thursdays) until necessary improvements are made

Types of Homework

Homework can take a variety of forms, including:

- Writing tasks;
- Note-taking and writing up notes taken in lessons;
- Reading;
- Learning – for example: facts, vocabulary, spellings;
- Completing controlled assessment;
- Research;
- Drawing or design work;
- Preparing for discussions or presentations;
- On-line learning;
- Answering questions;
- Completing worksheets;
- Revising for tests and exams

Roles

The role of the pupil

- To listen to homework instructions in class
- To carefully copy down (or ensure that they have a copy of) instructions for the task and deadline date into the homework diary
- To ensure that homework is completed and handed in on the deadline
- To attempt all work and give their best effort
- To inform the class teacher of any difficulties

The role of the Form Teacher

- To check that the homework tracker in diary is being signed by the parent/guardian
- To note and respond to any comments written in diaries by parents
- To discuss with student to see if there are any issues

The role of the Class Teacher

- To give full and comprehensive instructions
- To set deadlines for completed work and ensure that they are met
- To mark and return all homework
- To provide help and support
- To inform the Form Teacher when problems arise
- To reward homework if necessary

The role of the Parent

- To provide a quiet place to work
- To check the time spent on individual tasks
- To check the presentation and content of all homework being returned to school
- To sign the homework diary each week
- To provide the school with information about any problems through the homework diary or by contacting the school directly
- To check the homework tracker
- To support the school's policy

In line with national expectations, on average a pupil should expect to receive the following:

- Years 8 & 9: between 45 – 120 minutes of homework per day
- Year 10: between 60 – 120 minutes of homework per day
- Years 11 & 12: between 90 – 150 minutes of homework per day
- Pupils with SEN may have more individualised homework timetables
- Reasonable adjustments may be necessary for some SEN pupils

Homework Club

To support pupils with homeworks, the Homework Club in room 85 is available every Tuesday and Thursday from 3.15pm to 3.45pm. Pupils have access to computers and are encouraged to use them. Teachers will also be available to encourage and guide pupils.

Pupils who have been sent to homework club must:

- Attend
- Complete missed homeworks