



## **THE OAKS ACADEMY**

### **HOMEWORK POLICY**

<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR POLICY:</b>	Mrs E Hooley
<b>APPROVED:</b>	29.11.18
<b>SIGNED:       Headteacher                      Chair of Board of Trustees</b>	
<b>TO BE REVIEWED:</b>	July 2020

#### **Rationale**

The purpose of this policy is to provide clarity about the purpose of homework, details about the practicalities of how and when homework should be set and guidance for all stakeholders - staff, students and parents - about their respective roles in ensuring that home learning is successful.

At The Oaks Academy we believe that learning is not confined to the activities and experiences that students have at school and during lessons. Learning is a life-long and holistic process and students should engage with learning both inside and outside of school.

#### **Homework should:**

- encourage students to learn independently
- support the development of the whole individual
- provide personalised pathways and ways of learning
- inspire drive, commitment and passion in our learners
- promote high standards, success and achievement

Homework provides invaluable opportunities for students to engage with their learning outside of school in a way that is structured, meaningful and coherent. Specifically, homework should empower and enable students to:

- develop and deepen the knowledge and understanding they have gained in lessons
- experience stretch and challenge within a wide variety of subject areas

- practise and improve the skills and processes that are key to their success
- respond to and act upon the feedback they have received from their teachers
- pursue wider reading and research and explore interesting lines of enquiry of their own

## Practicalities

The Oaks Academy has a flexible approach to homework in that we do not enforce a homework timetable showing which subjects should give homework on which days. Homework will be set by teachers when it is necessary and appropriate, To enable us to achieve this it is proposed that:

During a timetable cycle (i.e. two weeks), subject Areas will set homework as below,

### At Key Stage 3:

**Each piece of homework given should take between 20 - 30 minutes to complete.**

SUBJECT	NUMBER OF PIECES:	SUBJECT	NUMBER OF PIECES:
ENGLISH	3 OR 4	TECHNOLOGY	1
MATHS	3 OR 4	ICT	1
SCIENCE	3 OR 4	ART	1
MFL	2	MUSIC	1
GEOGRAPHY	2	HISTORY	2
DRAMA and RE will set 1 piece of homework every 4 weeks.			

### At Key Stage 4:

**Each piece of homework given should take at least 30 – 40 minutes to complete.**

Every subject area will set a piece of homework every other lesson. With the exception of Science, who will set three pieces across the fortnight (one for each area: Biology, Chemistry and Physics.)

Art will set homework linked to projects, and at project deadline students may be expected to attend additional lessons to complete their final pieces as part of ongoing homework. Music students need regular practice on their instrument / voice in addition to their written homework. When preparing for practical performance controlled assessments, instrumental / vocal practice will totally replace written homework; during these periods, students will do *at least* 15 minutes of practice a day.

Homework may take a variety of forms:

- reading or other preparatory work
- research

- various forms of written work
- re-learning
- Online learning tasks/my maths
- Practice exam papers
- Practical tasks to carry out

## Role of Teachers

We are committed as a school to using the online tool **Show My Homework** (SMHW) as the primary interface through which homework is delivered and received. We believe that SMHW is the best way of ensuring that all our students can engage with the homework set by their teachers. Different homework types are available that suit every learning style and engage students. Show My Homework is excellent for engaging the three way partnership and allows parents/carers to check, monitor and support at home.

- *Normally* students will be given at least 2 days to complete homework. They are expected to manage this with the help of SMHW and their planner.
- Class teachers need to check that students actually understand the task set, and that homework is appropriately differentiated and challenging for all.
- Class teachers will keep a record of all homework set and a record of pupil's completion of it
- Where homework is part of a longer assignment, short term targets should be set to enable students to plan their work as effectively as possible.
- All homework will be marked within a reasonable time span.
- Where homework is not completed satisfactorily, support and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken including the use of a homework clinic for repeat offenders.

The Academy gives all students the opportunity to complete homework, as part of homework club, at designated times within the school week. This timetable is advertised in form rooms and around the school.

## Role of Learners

It is expected that students will:

- Check Show My Homework each day
- Meet deadlines set by teaching staff
- Produce homework of a high quality which matches their ability
- Seek help whenever necessary
- Accept the consequences of non completion of homework

## Role of Parent/Carers

It is expected that parents will:

- Support the school by ensuring that students are encouraged to appreciate the importance of private study.
- Provide a reasonably peaceful suitable place in which students can do their homework or encourage students to attend other places where homework can be done.
- Encourage students and praise them when they have completed homework.

- Expect deadlines to be met and check that they are.
- Check Show My Homework regularly.
- Ensure the homework given is completed to a good standard, and to sign the student planner once per week

*If parents have queries about homework set in an individual subject they are requested to contact the subject teacher or the Curriculum Team Leader in the first instance. If they have queries about homework in a number of subjects they are requested to contact their child's Pastoral Manager.*

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

- Curriculum Team Leaders will monitor homework set by all members of their subject team as part of their continuous processes of subject self review.
- The outcomes of this monitoring will be reported to SLT line managers termly and any reports will be saved on the shared area in the MLT Development and QA folder.
- SLT will monitor the application of the homework policy through learning walks, formal observations and work scrutiny.