

Longdean School



Homework Policy

Reviewed: June 2013
Ratified: June 2013
Next review: June 2015

Homework Policy

Policy Statement

Homework plays an essential part of the curriculum and in the delivery of teaching and learning. The homework model in each key stage is different and relates to the nature of the work and the level at which a student is studying.

All students in KS3 and KS4 are expected to use SAM Learning (an online learning and revision resource) for at least 2 hours per week as part of their homework. The students can choose the subjects that they would like to cover. This is monitored by the school and parents are notified when students are not meeting this requirement.

At KS3 students do Maths and MFL every week, English and Science fortnightly and every other subject once a year through a three week project. This model hopes to develop personal, learning and thinking skills at KS3 so that students can access, engage in and be successful at the more demanding level of GCSE and beyond at AS and A Level.

At KS4 students do not follow a homework timetable as they are set work in relation to their coursework, preparation for exams including exam style questions and work that will allow them to develop their independent skills in order to support them to realise their potential.

At KS5 students do not follow a homework timetable as they are also set work in relation to their coursework and preparation for exams. Post 16 students should be considering at least 10 hours further study a week beyond the normal school day in order to realise their potential.

The aims of our homework model are:

- To provide an opportunity for students to develop skills of independent learning.
- To provide appropriate differentiation.
- To encourage students to develop research and project work skills.
- To be used by students to consolidate their learning.

Monitoring:

- Homework is formally recorded by both students and teacher and the outcome will be monitored and assessed by the teacher on a regular basis.
- Homework should be recorded in the Student Planner which should be checked regularly by both the Form Tutor and a parent or carer.

Key stage 3.

Mathematics and MFL will be set homework once a week.

Science and English will be set homework once a fortnight, one in week A and one in week B.

In Art, Geography, History, ICT, Technology, Music, RE, English and Maths, homework is also set once across the year for each year group in Years 7, 8 & 9. The homework focuses on personal, learning and thinking skills (PLTS). Each PLTS has a focus with 6 statements attached to it: self managers, independent enquirers, effective participators, creative thinkers, reflective learners, team workers.

Each homework assignment will last for 3 weeks. The homework timetable is prepared in advance and a PLTS is assigned to each subject.

Guidance is given in lessons to ensure that students understand fully the nature of the task and the resources available. Writing frames are made available and a wide variety of presentation techniques are encouraged.

Resources are made available on the Learning Platform and work may be uploaded at any stage so that extra guidance can be given.

Students are offered the opportunity to attend homework club 3.30-4.30pm Monday to Thursday. This will be supported by 2 adults, likely to be one of our librarians and one of our HLTAs.

Homework is assessed on a scale of 1-5 (with 5 being outstanding) for both Attitude to Learning and achievement. Comments from subject teachers enable students to see how they can improve in accordance with the school's Assessment for Learning Policy. Marks and comments are recorded on the VLE. Staff will have two weeks from the end of the student deadline to complete the mark sheet.

If work is late the student is awarded an F for fail.

Parents will be given access to the Learning Platform so that they can monitor the progress of their child.

Teachers will pass the names of students who have failed to complete the task to the Director of Learning (DOL) and letters will be sent home explaining that a student has failed to meet a deadline. The DOL will also pass on the names of students with an F to the next subject so that they are aware of where there is a need for extra support and monitoring.

Achievement in the homework projects is monitored by the Homework Manager who will intervene if students repeatedly fail to complete the tasks they are set.

1 st missed deadline	A letter is sent home. An 'F' grade is marked on the spreadsheet and student is given an extension of three days in which he/she is expected to complete the homework.
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2 nd missed deadline	A parent meeting will be arranged with the Homework Manager and another member of the Pastoral Team. The student is given an extension of another 3 days to complete the work. An 'F' grade is entered on the mark sheet. The student will be placed
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in isolation for one day (5 hours) to complete the task if they fail to reach the new deadline.

3rd missed deadline

Internal Exclusion 10am to 6pm. The student will complete the project during the day and an 'F' grade awarded.

Excellent work will be rewarded with stickers and certificates.

Students with valid reasons for absence such as illness must present the work at the first possible opportunity and the DOL will make the judgement. A student on holiday is only a valid reason if the absence has been authorised.

Tutors are responsible for weekly monitoring through the Student Planner that homework is being set and recorded. There is an expectation that parents are involved in the weekly monitoring of Student Planners.