



**KINGSDOWN
SCHOOL**

School Homework Policy

Vision

Kingsdown school's vision is to have high expectations for all. The strategic priority of Kingsdown is to deliver educational excellence in teaching and learning and the curriculum to ensure that every student at Kingsdown School develops their individual talents, abilities and interests to their full potential. A key mission is to develop independent students and inquirers, and we believe that doing homework is one of the main ways in which students become confident and independent in their learning, a necessary skill throughout their time at school, and in adult life.

Aims

Homework tasks will be known as Prep or Review.

We set homework at Kingsdown for a number of reasons. These include:

- To develop our students' ability to study and learn independently
- To develop our students' ability to organise their time and priorities to complete work to deadlines
- To consolidate and reinforce learning from the lesson
- To help prepare for future lessons
- To extend the work and ideas of the lesson
- To work independently on coursework
- To allow teachers to assess the learning of students and to plan further lessons accordingly
- To invite parents and cares to be actively involved with their child's learning

Homework Activities

Homework tasks are set and shared with students using a learning platform called 'Show MY Homework'. The tasks set will vary according to the year group, subject and scheme of work and may include:

- Quiz to assess knowledge learnt in lessons
- Using a knowledge organiser to revise a specific topic
- Completion of exam questions
- Answering questions on a worksheet
- Redrafting and improving a piece of work
- Practising a skill
- Producing a diagram, drawing or model.

All students will be issued with a homework book for each subject. Careful consideration will be given to ensure that homework is differentiated, where appropriate, to take into account individual needs, such as EAL, SEN and more able. Should you have any difficulties logging into Show My Homework, please contact year office.

Homework frequency

Teachers will set homework regularly for all students.

Year 7 and 8

Core subjects: English, Maths and Science

A 30 - 60 minutes of homework per week for each subject

Option subjects:

Drama, RE and music (2 lessons a fortnight)- 1 per fortnight

Art, DT, Food, Geography, History, French, Spanish (3 lessons a week)- 1x 30-minute homework per subject a week.

Years 9, 10 and 11

Homework in all examined subjects at least once per week lasting a minimum of 45 – 90 minutes per subject per week

Homework will be collected in on the day that it is due and feedback given either during the lesson or if an exam question that requires marking it will be remodelled during the lesson.

The homework schedule will be shared on the school website. Students will be given 5 days to complete their homework

Rewards and Sanctions

We believe that students should be rewarded for their hard work and for exceptional work produced. To positively reinforce the significant role that homework plays in learning and ensure the highest levels of participation in homework, the following rewards and sanctions are adopted within each department

Rewards

- Achievement points allocated to the learner to recognise good work
- Use of Kingsdown Beats for:
Taking pride in the work completed, being responsible, stretching and challenging themselves, demonstrating resilience and being ambitious.
- Gold card
- Certificate given in celebration assembly

Sanctions

- Students will receive a 1-hour detention on the same day for non-completion of homework unless the lesson is during P5 where the detention will be set for the following day. This will be recorded on SIMs by the class teacher.
- Students will be sanctioned with a 1-hour same day detention for submitting poor quality or incomplete homework. This decision will be made by the class teachers.
- Students will be informed during the lesson that they have a detention and asked to record this in their planner.
- Parents will be informed that their child has a detention via a group call message.
- Students who fail to attend the 1 hour detention will be isolated the following day.

Supporting homework

We strongly believe that homework must be accessible to all students. Whilst the emphasis of homework is for the assignments to be completed at home, the school offers a Homework Club to act as a supportive facility for students to complete homework.

The VLC and LRC provide an ideal learning space where students may work in a calm, suitable learning environment and have access to resources and ICT facilities to help them complete their homework successfully.

Students may wish to complete homework within curriculum areas, this is with the permission of the relevant teaching staff.

Students who struggle to understand the homework set must seek advice and support from the relevant teacher prior to the homework deadline. Homework is carefully planned and it is therefore not acceptable for students to ask for help on the day that the homework is due as appropriate deadlines and timescales are set for completion. Parents are encouraged to contact the relevant class teacher via email if further support and clarification is required. See school website for staff contact details.

All homework will be set and shared using Show My Homework, this allows both parents and students to access homework. Students are encouraged to use the Show My Homework App on their phone. Being able to access Show My Homework is the responsibility of the student. They can seek help on access from their tutor or Progress Leader. It is not an acceptable excuse that they could not access Show My Homework. There is also a parent log in for the APP which can be used to check homework

Responsibilities

The role of the student

1. To listen to homework instructions in class.
2. To record instructions for the task and deadline date into the student planner.
3. To ensure that homework is completed and handed in to meet the deadline.
4. To attempt all work and give their best.
5. Problems with homework must be highlighted and resolved before the deadline, this includes access to Show My Homework. If necessary, students must see the member of staff concerned for help.
6. If students are absent, they are expected to find out what work has been missed and by accessing Show My Homework.
7. Being away on the day that homework is set is not an accepted reason for not doing it.

The role of the Class Teacher

The class teacher controls the direction of homework and the nature of tasks undertaken. The teacher will:

1. Set homework regularly.
2. Give full and comprehensive instructions.
3. Provide any resources required on Show My Homework
4. Set deadlines for completed work and ensure that they are met.
5. Ensure that homework is evidenced in line with whole school policy.
6. Provide feedback on homework and answer emails linked to concerns in a timely manner
7. Provide guidance and support, where necessary, to enable students to complete homework assignments.
8. Set a variety of homework activities to enable students to consolidate learning that suits their learning preferences.
9. Adapt homework to suite individual learning needs, where appropriate.

10. Inform the Head of Department or Director of Learning when problems arise.

The role of the Parents

The role of a parent is crucial if a child is to gain success from homework. To reinforce its value through positive feedback will give students the confidence to persevere, work hard and reach high standards of achievement.

Parents can assist by:

1. Providing a table, chair and a quiet place to work.
2. Help their child to organise their time to their best advantage and negotiating with their child when homework is to be done as a break from learning is important too.
3. Checking the time spent on individual tasks.
4. Ensuring that outside clubs do not hamper a child's quality of work and put a child under undue pressure.
5. Encourage students to complete homework to the best of their ability.
6. Checking presentation (including that the work is legible) and content of all homework being returned to school.
7. Contacting the school at the earliest possible moment with information about any problems through the student planner or by contacting the school directly.
8. Where possible checking the homework tasks on Show My Homework and ensuring students have access to this.
9. Where possible guiding their child to appropriate resources locally or online to enhance their understanding and support their learning.

If you have questions about homework across several subjects, contact your child's tutor. If you have a question about homework in a particular subject, contact the teacher for that subject

Monitoring and review

Monitoring activities will focus on the impact of homework on student achievement as a result of the quality of homework set, the frequency in which it is completed and the impact of the marking of homework on student progress, as per the requirements outlined in the Assessment Policy and Feedback policy.

Links to other policies

- Teaching and Learning Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Feedback Policy
- Behaviour for Learning Policy

Whole school responsibility

Senior leader responsible for Homework
Senior leadership team

Signed by : 
Emma Leigh-Bennett
Headteacher

Signed by : 
Lynne Scragg
Chair of Governors

Date : 9th July 2019

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