



Joseph Leckie Academy

Whole School Homework Policy

Approved by JLA Trust Board: 09/2019

Last reviewed on: 10/2021

Next review due by: 10/2022

1. The Purpose of Homework

1.1 The Academy believes that homework is a vital part of all students' learning and is essential for all students. It is not optional and is set to:

- Encourage students to take responsibility for organising their own work.
- Support development of skills required for independent learning and encourage good study habits.
- Consolidate, reinforce and extend knowledge and understanding developed in the classroom.
- Enable students to meet the demands of coursework and prepare them for examinations.
- Catch up on any learning lost due to absences for example due to COVID-19 Lockdowns, isolations or illness.

2. The Setting and Marking of Homework

- The Homework Timetable for each year group is published at the start of each academic year.
- Homework should be planned as an integral part of the lesson and should have a clear purpose.
- Homework will usually be set in accordance with the homework timetable. However, there may be occasions where homework is set outside the published time in order to enhance learning.
- Homework must be recorded accurately on the Ruler system or using class or individual emails, with clear deadlines for completion.
- The setting of homework will be monitored by Head of Subjects through Ruler Classroom.
- Homework will be marked by the subject teacher in accordance with Academy Marking Policies.

3. Homework Tasks

3.1 Faculty/Departments should plan homework to ensure that tasks are varied, support learning and that resources are accessible to students.

3.2 Possible tasks might be:

- Research or reading which could be assessed verbally as a lesson starter.
- Preparation for presentations which can be assessed during delivery.
- Preparation of factual posters or drawing as appropriate to the subject.
- Learning key words and definitions, this could be assessed as a lesson starter.
- Learning key spelling to support literacy in a subject, this could be assessed as a lesson starter.
- Projects or extended assignments.
- Questions that consolidate and embed classroom learning.

3.3 It may be possible to use Peer and Self -Assessment to check students have completed the work and their understanding of it. It is however reasonable to expect teachers to mark and assess one homework per half term*.

3.4 A classroom teacher may wish to set a homework that will cover several timetabled sessions for assessment purposes. If this is the case, then the total time should approximate to that of all sessions covered. Teachers should periodically monitor that students have completed the expected amount of work throughout the project time.

3.5 Teachers should avoid setting the completion of classwork as a homework task.

3.6 Students should always indicate in their exercise books which tasks are homework and include the date.

*However, during periods of Lockdown or longer isolations/absence, completing class work may take priority over setting homework for emotional and well-being reasons and as remote learning may take more time due to technical issues/support needed. During these times teachers will monitor and ensure work is completed to avoid students falling too far behind.

4. Recommended Homework Times

4.1 The time required for homework completion will vary according to the nature of the task and the student's approach. However, the following DfE guidance should be considered when setting the task:

Y7 and **Y8** spend a total of 45-90 minutes a day on homework, 15 min per timetabled subject per night.

Y9 spend a total of 45-90 minutes a day on homework, 30 min per timetabled subject per night.

Y10 and **Y11** spend a total of 1.5 to 2.5 hours a day on homework, equating to 40 min per subject from the homework timetable.

Y12 and **Y13** should spend a minimum of 3 to 4 hours per week on each of their chosen subjects.

5. Study Support

5.1 The role of Parents/Carers

Most students will complete homework at home. Parents/Carers are therefore in a position to offer vital support and encouragement in this area. Parents can provide support and encouragement by:

- Providing a suitable quiet space in which their child can work.
- Talking with their child about their homework and discussing the importance of completing it to the best of their ability.
- Supporting with homework by testing knowledge and understanding of the task/work set.
- Check recall/memory for example in vocabulary tests in French or definitions of words etc.
- Checking deadlines and helping their child to manage their time to meet these.
- Giving praise for successful completion of homework.
- Checking the homework set in their child's via Ruler Parent or via their student Academy emails.
- Make contact with the Academy through the Form Tutor, Head of Year or Head of Faculty/Department if there is a concern over the nature of the homework or the amount set.
- Ensuring their child, where possible has access to a computer/laptop/tablet/phone to access work at home via SharePoint and emails for additional support especially during COVID-19 Lockdowns or isolations/long term absence.
- Supporting their child with work to catch up after COVID-19 Lockdowns and isolations/long term absence by encouraging them to access the subject resources available on the Academy Subject SharePoint pages.
- Directing their child to access these additional resources when they are at home both during any isolations/absences and for additional work at home to catch up or to extend their understanding and revision.

5.2 Homework Help in the Library

The Library is open at lunchtimes and at the start and end of the Academy day to support students in the completion of Homework tasks.

6. Procedures when students fail to complete homework

6.1 Homework must be completed on time. Failure to meet a deadline without a very good reason will result in a detention with their teacher which is appropriate to length of the homework task set.

6.2 Teachers should contact parents where a student fails to attend such a detention and notify the Head of Faculty/Department who will support the teacher with a further subject detention.

6.3 If a student persistently fails to complete homework and no improvement is seen after this, then students will be referred to the Heads of Year and may be placed on report.

7. Monitoring and Evaluation

7.1 The Head of Faculty/Department is responsible for ensuring that the faculty/departmental policy is in accordance with the Academy Policy and should contain suggestions regarding the type of tasks which

may be appropriate and guidance on how this should be marked in line with Academy marking policies.

7.2 The Head of Faculty/Department is responsible for monitoring the implementation and effectiveness of the faculty/department's policy, through work scrutiny and through Achievement meetings.

7.3 The Senior Leadership Team will be responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of the Homework Policy across the Academy. This will involve monitoring selected students through lesson monitoring visits, work scrutiny feedback and monitoring of Ruler Classroom usage statistics/emails sent.

7.4 Students have the opportunity to provide feedback on the effectiveness of homework via their representation on the student council and through their form tutor.

7.5 Parents/Carers are involved in monitoring and evaluating homework through Ruler Parent via the MyEd App and/or via their child's Academy emails. Should parents have concerns regarding the setting of homework they should contact the Head of Year who will liaise with staff on their behalf. They are also welcome to contact senior members of staff by telephone or letter if they have a specific concern.