



Joseph Leckie Academy

Whole School Homework Policy

This policy is reviewed annually

History of Document

Approved by Governors: 11/09/2019

Review date for Document: 11/09/2020

The Purpose of Homework

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.

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, 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.

Homework Tasks

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

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.
- Questions that consolidate and embed classroom learning.

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.

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.

Possible tasks may be:

- Projects or extended assignments.
- Questions that consolidate and embed classroom learning.

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

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

Recommended Homework Times

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.

Study Support

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 son/daughter can work.
- Talking with their son/daughter 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 son/daughter to manage their time to meet these.
- Giving praise for successful completion of homework.
- Checking the homework set in their son/daughter's via Ruler Parent.
- 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.

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.

Procedures when students fail to complete homework

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.

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.

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.

Monitoring and Evaluation

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.

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

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.

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

Parents are involved in monitoring and evaluating homework through Ruler Parent which can be accessed via the MyEd App. 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.