



HOMEWORK POLICY

Last Review: July 2019
Committee: Learning
Date Ratified: 17th September 2019
Next Review: July 2020

Rationale

Sir William Romney's School believes that homework is an invaluable opportunity for students to enrich their class learning, explore topics in greater depth and work independently with a range of media. This policy aims to set out the methods and processes by which we facilitate our homework.

Definition

Homework is any piece of learning which takes place outside of the usual classroom environment.

Aims

This policy is intended to support the following aims:

- To encourage our students to be independent, lifelong learners
- To complement other school policies in creating independent, lifelong learners.
- To raise the achievement of students through effective homework experiences
- To give clear procedures and guidelines for students, teachers and parents/carers on homework **at Sir William Romney's school.**

Purposes of Homework

At Sir William Romney's we set purposeful homework that has clear learning and skill development outcomes. The purpose of good homework is to:

- Encourage independent learning
- Develop research skills
- To support the student/parent/teacher partnership
- Consolidate class learning
- Practise learning through doing.

Appropriate Homework Activities

Homework **should be an integral part of each department's schemes of work. It supports and extends** the current learning topics or relevant skills. Appropriate homework tasks could be:

- Essay writing
- Interviews / questionnaires
- Presentations
- Research / investigations
- Projects
- Drawing / designing
- Model making
- Embedding class learning e.g. vocabulary or Mathematics questions.

The Amount and Type of Homework Set

Key Stage 3

All subjects are set homework on a carousel basis each year. These carousel homework pieces will all follow the format and guidelines agreed in the Homework Charter detailed here:

Sir William Romney's Homework Charter

Homework tasks must include:

- 1) Clear outline of the task/tasks (ideally with an element of choice)
- 2) Differentiated (offering help for the lower ability and a sense of challenge for all)
- 3) Success criteria (with reference to the literacy and/or numeracy elements)
- 4) Success criteria in relation to resilience (house points) Score of 1-3

Students will receive:

- 1) Feedback on their homework in line with Learning Area's feedback policies.
- 2) Ample time will be given in class by the teacher to explain the task, the success criteria and possibly look at past examples. Students will then be given 2 weeks from the date set to complete
- 3) Between two to three pieces of extended learning tasks to complete in each fortnightly window. The minimum timings for each piece of extended learning are given below:

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Extended learning (per piece of work)	1hour 15mins	1hour 30mins	2hours

This homework can be completed at any time during the fortnightly window; its completion does not need to be spread across the ten school nights.

Key Stage 4

Students are set weekly homework pieces in each subject during their Key Stage 4 courses, with each piece lasting for a minimum of 40 minutes. The nature of the Key Stage 4 subjects are such that each needs a time allocation every week for homework.

Supporting the Completion of Homework

As a school we provide an environment where all students are supported whatever their ability or special need. For those students who need an environment conducive to learning and the support and encouragement from adults, the afterschool Homework Club runs twice a week and provides a supportive environment for students to work independently on homework pieces. This is run by the school librarian and other appropriate members of staff. Support for Learning will use intervention sessions to work on homework pieces and will support students with Special Educational Needs in completing their homework.

Support from Parents/Carers

Support from parents/carers is crucial in providing the right environment for the students to complete their homework and in encouraging them to spend at least the required amount of time on the piece of learning. Parents are emailed at the start of each fortnight with the homework pieces for their child for that session. This will allow parents/carers to support students more effectively in completing their homework. Parents/carers can and should contact teaching staff or their **son/daughter's tutor if they have any queries or questions about supporting their child in completing their learning.**

Sanctions for Non-Completion

It is essential that all students benefit from the rich learning experiences of completing the homework tasks, non-completion will therefore be followed up by sanctions which provide time and opportunity for the piece of work to be completed.

The following sanctions will be applied:

Extended Learning Key Stage 3

If a student fails to meet a homework deadline they are given a 48 hour extension and a warning that if the piece of work is not handed in within this time, the student will be issued with an afterschool detention from the class teacher. The student is also not able to receive any house points for the piece of work if it is handed in late. Their parents/carers are sent a text message which informs them

that the piece of work has not been handed in and about the sanctions that will follow if the piece of work is not handed in. An afterschool detention then follows if the homework is not handed in.

Weekly homework pieces at Key Stage 4

The class teacher will set a 20-40 minute detention for failure to complete homework (task dependent), this can take place in lunch time or after school.

Monitoring homework

Teachers will:

- Set homework in their subject in accordance with the timetable. Homework pieces will be **purposeful and activities such as those mentioned in 'Appropriate homework activities' section of this document.**
- Ensure that the pieces of homework set in Key Stage 3 follow the Homework Charter as detailed **in 'The amount and type of homework set' section above.**
- Provide feedback opportunities with regard to the homework.
- Ensure that students record their homework in an appropriate way.

Tutors will:

- Intervene as appropriate (see sanction guidelines) if students are failing in more than one subject to complete their extended learning.
- Seek support for the student in completing their homework if necessary.

Learning Managers will:

- Intervene as appropriate (see sanction guidelines) if students are failing in more than one subject to complete their extended learning.
- Seek support for students in completing their homework if necessary.

Senior Leadership Team will:

- Ensure that departments are setting homework as per the timetables by periodic checking of student planners.
- Monitor all aspects of this policy.