

HOMEWORK AND INDEPENDENT STUDY POLICY

Rationale

King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy believes that learning is a lifelong activity and recognises the importance of enabling all students to be independent, lifelong learners. Establishing solid study habits and routines will encourage responsibility and resilience, alongside having a positive impact in all aspects of development.

Homework involves tasks that are set to be done outside of the classroom without direct supervision from teachers. Homework does not always have to be done at home and tasks can be undertaken at school where resources and a quiet environment may be required.

Homework should add value to the learning experience of the classroom, promoting a deeper understanding, recall ability and further embedding key skills.

Homework is an important, integral part of the learning process, enhancing and improving progress over time.

Purpose

- To encourage all students to develop the skills of independent learning.
- To consolidate, reinforce and extend the understanding of work learnt in the classroom.
- To detect any misconceptions.
- To demonstrate progress and understanding.
- To provide time for extension activities, wider reading or study of sources/information not accessible in the classroom.
- Enable students to prepare for school and public examinations.
- To encourage parents/carers to be involved in students' learning.

Schedule

Each Year group in Key Stage 3 and 4 has a homework schedule to ensure a manageable volume of homework is set throughout the week. Up to two homework tasks will be set each day. English, maths and science will be set once a week. The other subjects will be set once a fortnight. Homework setting is done on Class Charts. Post 16 students have varied timetables and homework will reflect the individual learning programme of each student.

As students move through each year group, work set will begin to involve longer pieces of homework, reflecting their age.

Roles and responsibilities

Staff are responsible for:

- Identifying and setting appropriate learning activities. All activities set are relevant and appropriate to the current programmes of study for the individual students.
- Monitoring and assessing each student's progress and reporting to students, staff, and parent/carers as appropriate.
- Ensuring that learning activities are communicated effectively to all students and recorded in their school planner.
- Identifying time scales for completion of activities.
- Liaising with appropriate colleagues to identify and deliver the additional support students might need to fully engage with our expectations for their out of class learning.

Students are responsible for:

- Recording homework accurately in school planner.
- Completing all set activities to the best of their ability.
- Ensuring that their work is submitted by the deadline date for completion.
- Informing the subject teacher of any difficulties with work set.

Parents/carers are responsible for:

- Supporting and encouraging their children to complete all independent learning activities to the best of their ability within the set deadlines.
- Sign the school planner each week to confirm all homework has been attempted.
- Contacting their child's Year Head/Pastoral Manager if they have any concerns or queries.

Rewards and Sanctions

The Academy Rewards system will recognise a positive work ethos and promote the endeavours of good quality, consistent submission of homework in all key stages. The Behaviour for Learning system will address problems with submitting homework. Failure to submit homework at the required time will result in a warning and the student must then present the homework in the next timetabled lesson.

Failing to submit homework for the second time incurs a C3. Continued failure will result in the student attending Homework Catch Up sessions after school until work is completed.

Where homework is an issue across the board for a student, this will be addressed at appropriate meetings and followed up by the Head of Year as appropriate.

Homework and Independent learning Schedule 2022/23

Key Stage 3

Year 7

WK 1	M	TU	W	TH	F
A	CS/Music	Science	Spanish	English/ Humanities	Maths/DT
B	CS/Music	English	Science	Maths	Humanities
WK 2					
A	PE/PA	Science	Art	English/ Humanities	Maths
B	PE/PA	English	Science/ Spanish	Maths/Art	DT/ Humanities

Year 8

WK 1	M	TU	W	TH	F
A	CS/Music	Maths	Humanities/Spanish	English	Science
B	CS/Music	Maths/ Humanities	English	Science	Art/DT
WK 2					
A	PE/PA	Maths	DT/Humanities	English	Science/ Art
B	PE/PA	Maths	English/ Spanish	Science	Humanities

Year 9

WK 1	M	TU	W	TH	F
A	CS/Music	Science	Maths	English/ Humanities	Spanish
B	CS/Music	Science/ Humanities	Maths	Art/DT	English
WK 2					
A	PE/PA	Science	Maths	English	Art/Humanities
B	PE/PA	Science	Maths	Spanish/DT	Humanities/ English

*Subjects in bold – homework will be set once over the 2 week period on the day indicated above.

Humanities – Geography, History and RPE to distribute work set across the KS3 cycle.

Key Stage 4

Year 10

WK 1	M	TU	W	TH	F
A	English	Option C	RPE	Option B/Maths	Science
B	RPE	Option C	Maths	Option B	English/Science
WK 2					
A	English	PE	Option A	Maths	Science
B	Maths	PE	English	Option A	Science

Year 11

WK 1	M	TU	W	TH	F
A	Science	Maths	Option B	RPE/PE	English
B	RPE/PE	Maths	Option B	Science	English
WK 2					
A	Option A	Maths	Science	Option C	English
B	Option A	Maths	Science	Option C	English

Option A – Year 10	Option B – Year 10	Option C – Year 10
Art	Health & Social Care	History
Business	History	Textiles
Computer Science	Geography	Geography
BTEC Health & Social Care	Spanish	Spanish
PD	PA	BTEC Business
BTEC Sport	Food	
Textiles		

Option A – Year 11	Option B – Year 11	Option C – Year 11
Art	History	History
Business	Geography	Geography
Sociology	Food	Citizenship
Music	BTEC Business	BTEC Business
BTEC Health & Social Care	BTEC Health & Social Care	BTEC Health & Social Care
PD	Spanish	
BTEC Sport		

Key Stage 5

Post 16 students have varied timetables and study periods in school and homework will reflect the individual learning programme of each student.

Students are expected to undertake 5 hours per week on homework/independent study for each A 'Level or equivalent course studied, 8 hours per week on homework/independent studies for each 2 A 'Level equivalent BTEC studied and 10 hours for each 3 A 'Level equivalent BTEC.

For GCSE resit courses, students should spend 2 hours of homework/independent learning each week.

Appendix 1

Homework Monitoring Plan

