

Poole Grammar School	Policy	PGS/P/49
Homework		Issue 3
		September 2021

1. Overall aim

To facilitate improvements in student progress and develop students' independent learning skills through the consistent delivery of high quality homework tasks.

High quality homework tasks are:

- regularly set;
- connected meaningfully to the learning that is currently taking place, or is about to take place, in lessons;
- challenging, but not too challenging;
- not long or complex;
- followed up in a timely fashion by clear feedback, which is efficiently delivered.

Poole Grammar School recognises that when teachers set too much homework, and when students spend too much time on homework, there is an adverse effect on student well-being as the time available for exercise, relaxation and leisure activities / hobbies / sport becomes limited.

Parents/carers have an important role to play in providing their child with a quiet, distraction free place to complete their homework and by setting clear, consistent rules to enable their child to complete homework tasks effectively so that students produce quality work by the deadline set.

2. Connections to other key policies

The facilitation of high quality homework depends upon:

- excellent teaching and learning within lessons – the principles of which are as set out in *Poole Grammar School's Teaching and Learning Policy (PGS/P/63)*;
- students with additional needs, for example SEND needs or mental health needs, having those needs met in an way that is reasonable, proportionate and appropriate with regard to homework tasks – the principles of which are as set out in *Poole Grammar School's SEND Policy (PGS/P/27)*;
- there being clear sanctions, which are fairly and consistently applied, for missing homework deadlines or not completing homework at all – the principles of which are as set out in *Poole Grammar School's Behaviour Policy (PGS/P/12)*.

3. Homework setting

Teachers will only set homework for students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 on the days indicated by the school homework timetable, which is constructed and distributed by the Assistant Headteacher who oversees systems and data. Teachers will ensure that homework is always set, taking into account the exceptions outlined below.

Every homework task will be electronically logged; teachers will be informed on an annual basis how this is to be done.

Teachers will ordinarily give students at least 48 hours to complete homework tasks.

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will not be set homework tasks to complete over holiday periods. When work is set over a holiday period for students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 it should be focused on consolidation of learning and revision.

Students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 will not be set homework tasks in the two school weeks preceding formal mock or end of year examinations. During this time students are expected to engage in revision.

In the Sixth Form, not all homework time will be given over to directed homework tasks. In most A-level subjects Year 12 and Year 13 students must be given a significant amount homework time each fortnight to engage in consolidation of learning, revision and extension activities.

4. Amount of homework

The amount of homework set each week for each key stage will be as follows:

Key stage	Time allocated	Subject breakdown per fortnight
3 (Years 7, 8 & 9)	Two 30 minute slots each school night / 10 hours a fortnight	3 x English / Mathematics 2 x MFL / Science (3 in Years 8 & 9) 1 x Art / DT / Geography / History / ICT / Music / PSHE / RP
4 (Years 10 & 11)	Two 45 minute slots each school night / 15 hours a fortnight	3 x English / Mathematics / Science 2 x RP / Option 1 / Option 2 / Option 3 / Option 4
5 (Years 12 & 13)	5 hours per A-level per week / 30 hours per fortnight for a 3 A-level programme	For the majority of A-level subjects students should spend approximately half their homework time on consolidation of learning, revision and extension activities.

5. Completion of homework

Students must:

- ensure that they know what homework has been set by regularly checking the school's electronic homework log;
- spend the allocated amount of time on the homework to ensure that the work is completed to a high standard;
- not spend excessive amounts of time on homework; homework tasks should normally be completed within the allocated time;
- ensure that work submitted in response to a homework task is entirely their own work. Students must not copy work, whether the copied work is from another student or from an online source, or gain excessive help from their parents/carers;
- submit their work by the deadline set and in the required format if the submission is via an online platform;
- if students need an extension to the deadline they must contact the appropriate teacher at least 24 hours in advance of the deadline.

6. Dealing with issues connected to homework

Teachers must consistently and promptly log issues regarding students' late submission of homework, non-completion of homework and/or poor quality work submitted in response to a homework task on the school's management information system (MIS). Homework related issues must be consistently and promptly followed up with appropriate sanctions as outlined in the school's behaviour policy.

7. Quality Assurance

Heads of department / course co-ordinators are responsible for the consistent and effective application of this policy across all classes in their subject.

Author	Steve Jenkins	July 2021
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