

## **Homework Policy**

Independent study is an integral part of the learning process at Outwood Grange Academy. Students should have homework set on a regular basis that is meaningful and appropriate to their age and stage. This must be recorded in the planner with a clear and appropriate deadline.

### **Homework is set in order to**

- Consolidate, reinforce and extend what pupils know, understand and can do in the classroom.
- Develop the essential independent study skills that will ensure that strong academic outcomes and success are achieved by all students.
- Involve parents and carers in students' learning .
- Encourage students to develop the skills, confidence, motivation and self-discipline needed to study effectively as independent and life-long learners.

### **Guidance on setting homework**

- Assign purposeful homework. For example: introducing new content; practising a skill or process that students can do independently but not fluently; elaborating on information addressed in class; and giving students opportunities to explore topics that interest them.
- Assign homework that's likely to be completed. This means getting the difficulty and interest level right so that students can do it independently and with a high level of success. Homework that isn't completed has little value.
- Homework should be clearly differentiated to allow all students to succeed; not all students in the same class should always receive the same task. Students will be supported in the recording of homework in their planner if required.
- Make the purpose of the homework clear to the student e.g. to increase a particular area of knowledge.
- The quality of the homework set is more important than the quantity.
- Involve parents in appropriate ways. Teachers should send home clear guidelines that tell parents the ways they can be most helpful. One best practice is having parents act as a sounding board to help students summarize what they have learned from their homework. Parents should not be expected to act as teachers or to police their children's homework completion.
- Follow up with students. Homework should be checked and students should get prompt feedback and, if necessary, remediation.

Marzano & Pickering 2007/ EEF

## Regularity of Homework

The quantity of homework pupils will complete each week can vary depending on the curriculum time allocation for each subject, the age range of the pupils and the nature of the homework task. As a learning community, we believe it is essential that all homework tasks are meaningful and manageable for pupils. The emphasis is on the quality of homework rather than the quantity. Students should expect to receive one piece of homework per subject per week.

Publishing the homework timetable and overview provides parents and carers with an idea when homework will be set and what style. All students should receive at least one piece of homework per subject per week.

## Types of Homework

Examples of preparation homework tasks could include reading in advance of a new topic, pre topic research work, watching an online video clip in advance of learning or preparation of pre topic questions. Examples of consolidation homework tasks could include creating mind maps or other revision tools to consolidate learning, learning of key knowledge or vocabulary for a test, answering of an examination style questions, feed forward improvement work or completion of an online test to check understanding.

## School Library

The school library is open during break, lunch and after the Academy every day. This provides a supervised and quiet space for students to complete independent study and access computers. Students must sign in with the librarian to access this resource.

## Department Homework Overview and Timetable

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/15lzmvrkZUNZmEmfgnfj2BHzsFemvcq3Z7MUp4mC3WVw/edit?usp=sharing>

### Class Teachers will:

- Set regular homework appropriate for the age and stage of the student. Homework will be clearly differentiated to allow all students to succeed; not all students in the same class will always receive the same task.
- Ensure that all homework is recorded in the planner with a clear and appropriate deadline and support students with the recording of homework in their planner if required.
- Where no homework is set ensure that 'none set' is recorded in the planner
- Check that homework has been completed and to the required standard
- Ensure that instructions and expectations are clear for all students

NB: Homework support will not override a C4 detention students should attend after their C4a

Pilot 2019

- Follow the Academy protocol where a deadline has been missed or homework has not been completed to the expected standard.



**Students will:**

- Record their homework in the student planner
- Seek clarification or assistance from the subject teacher if uncertain regarding instructions
- Complete homework on time and to the best of their ability
- Respond to feedback from the teacher.

**The parent/carer will:**

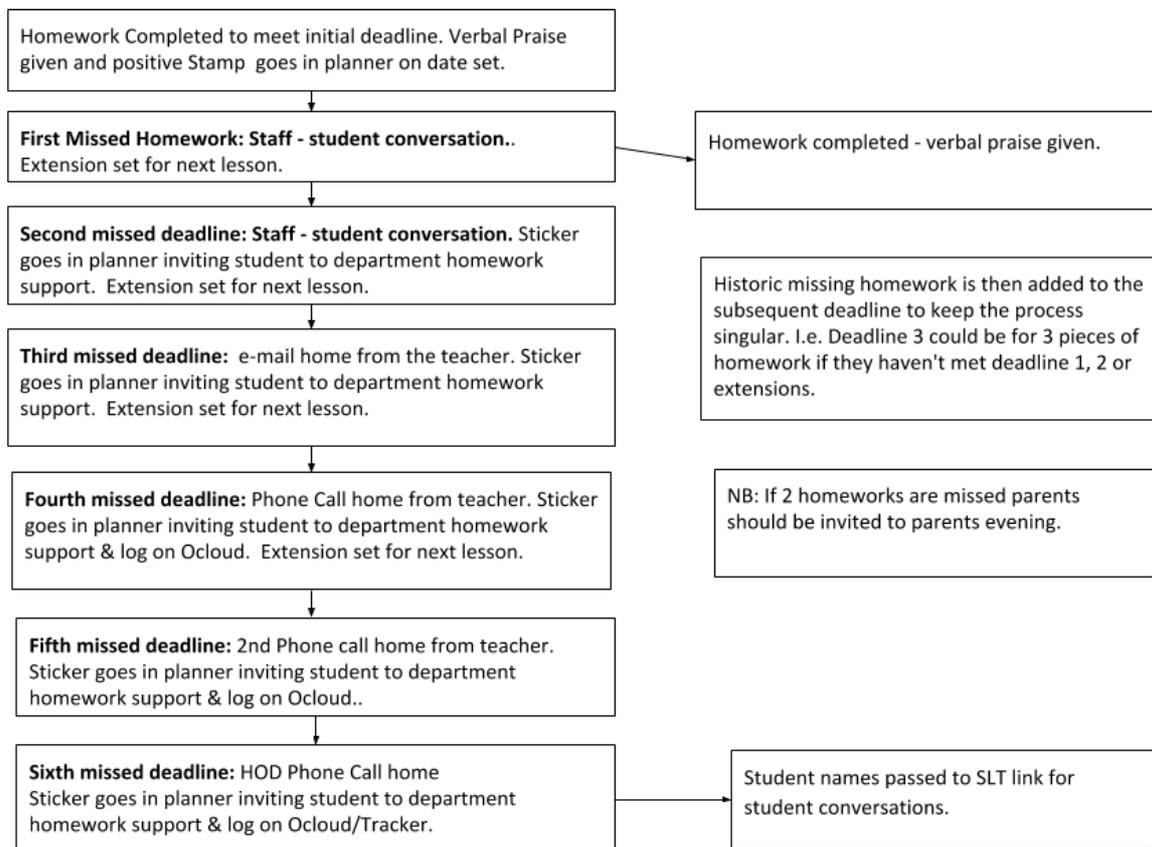
- Ensure that homework is completed on time and to the expected standard
- Enthuse their child through conversations about their learning
- Check their child's homework via the pupil planner.

**The Deep Learning Team will:**

- Perform standards checks to quality assure the quality and frequency of homework set
- Ensure that the homework policy is consistently applied
- Evaluate the homework policy regularly with staff.

NB: Homework support will not override a C4 detention students should attend after their C4a

### Homework Protocol 2019



## References

Source 1: Marzano and Pickering 2007: [Robert Marzano and Debra Pickering on Productive Homework](https://graniteschools.instructure.com/courses/1118234/files/.../download?verifier...) <https://graniteschools.instructure.com/courses/1118234/files/.../download?verifier...>

Source 2: Education Endowment Foundation: [homework-secondary](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/teaching-learning-toolkit/homework-secondary/)

## Useful Resources

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/teaching-learning-toolkit/homework-secondary/>

<https://teacherhead.com/2012/09/02/homework-matters-great-teachers-set-great-homework/>

### Hattie

He added homework does make a bigger difference in secondary school, mainly because the tasks are often about reinforcing and giving students another chance to practice what they've learnt. 'The worst thing you can do with homework is give kids projects, the best thing you can do is to reinforce something you've already learnt,' Hattie told the broadcaster.

“Teachers set challenging homework, in line with the school’s policy and as appropriate for the age and stage of pupils, that consolidates learning, deepens understanding and prepares pupils very well for work to come.”

OFSTED School Inspection Handbook 2018