

Homework Policy

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Version Control Document

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Wayland Academy Homework Policy

Homework for KS3 should be set in the form of Home Learning Projects (HLPs), in line with the HLP Calendar. This can be found on the school website. The majority of homework projects are expected to take 5 hours to complete and will be the only homework set by that subject.

However there are some exceptions to this:

- English – in response to feedback from parents, English will be setting a two hour projects each half term.
- Design Technology and Art – In addition to the HLP they may set small pieces of additional homework during the year, these will take no than 10 minutes to complete.
- Physical Education – will set a project which is two and half hours in duration.
- Modern Foreign Languages – will set a two and a half hour project and in addition to regular vocabulary homework.

In short, Home Learning Projects should:

- Include a pro-forma that outlines the tasks and any learning objectives/outcomes.
 - Make reference to the amount of time students should spend on any particular task.
 - Include success criteria which students can use for reflection.
 - Provide opportunities for peer and self-assessment.
 - Involve teacher feedback which allows for a dialogue between the teacher and student.
 - Provide opportunities for students to explore literacy and numeracy.
- All homework should be uploaded onto Classcharts.

Aims of homework and Home Learning Projects (HLPs)

All forms of homework should enable pupils to:

- Access resources not available in the classroom.
- Develop research skills.
- Have an opportunity for independent work.
- Show progress and understanding.
- Provide feedback in the evaluation of teaching.
- To enhance their study skills e.g. planning, time management and self-discipline.
- To take ownership and responsibility for learning.
- Engage parental co-operation and support.
- Create channels for home school dialogue.

Some examples of the types of homework might be:

- Independent learning
- Practice - learning by doing

- Research
- Reading
- Interviews
- Drawing
- Using ICT
- Recording

What should be considered when setting homework?

- It should not be used as a punishment or penalty for poor performance.
- Home Learning Projects at KS3 should be set departmentally so that all students receive the same experience and opportunities for success. This will also allow for moderation of homework and for progress to be measured.
- A variety of tasks with different levels of challenge is likely to be beneficial and is expected within Home Learning Projects.
- The quality of homework is more important than the quantity. Pupils should receive feedback on homework which is specific and timely.
- Have you made the purpose of homework clear to students? e.g. to increase a specific area of knowledge, or fluency in a particular area.

Independent Learning at KS4

• Homework for KS4 will be set at least once a fortnight by the class teacher. The amount of homework set may vary at different times of the year due to demands therefore if your child has not been set any direct homework they are expected to complete revision or wider reading around the topic they are course studying. Please refer to the topic timetable for each which can be found on the website.

Recording homework

All homework set for students at Wayland Academy should be recorded via Classcharts.

What is Classcharts?

Classcharts has been used at the school for a number of years in order to monitor student's behaviour. Classcharts has now developed a homework calendar which is very simple to use and we believe will be highly effective for students, parents and teachers. Teachers will be able to use it to set homework quickly and will also be able to add positives and negatives through a single platform. This will allow parents and students to be able to check the status of homework via the internet, mobile and tablet devices.

How can homework be accessed?

Homework can be accessed by teachers, students and parents in the following ways:

- A personalised homework calendar is available for all users including students and parents using the Classcharts website and login in details.
- There are iPhone and Android apps available for free for students and parents.

- The Classcharts service is available and works on all devices using a modern browser such as IE 8+, Safari, Chrome and Firefox.
- All staff members will have a log-in for Classcharts. This allows teachers to set homework and also the facility to show when homework has been handed in, and the mark awarded for the homework.

Responsibilities

The role of the pupil:

- To listen to homework instructions in class.
- To visit the school homework calendar via the school website.
- To download the Apple or Android app if they have a smart phone to see the homework.
- To copy down instructions for the task and deadline date into the homework diary.
- To ensure that homework is completed and handed in by the deadline.
- To attempt all work and give their best effort.
- To inform the class teacher of any difficulties or issues.

The role of the Form Tutor:

- To include homework in pupil mentoring where appropriate.
- To see that homework is being set and recorded via Classcharts.
- To check the students know where to access the school homework.
- To note and respond to any comments written in diaries by parents.

The role of the Class Teacher:

- The class teacher controls the direction of homework and the nature of tasks undertaken.
- Ensures that homework is set on Classcharts for all classes.
- Set homework according to the HLP timetable and to ensure that regular weekly homework is set for KS4 students.
- Provide the stimulus.
- Give full and comprehensive instructions.
- Set deadlines for completed work and ensure that they are met.
- Mark and return all homework promptly.
- Provide help and support to any student with queries.
- Inform the Subject Lead/Lead Professional and Head of Faculty, Tutor and Progress Leader, as appropriate, when problems arise.

The role of the Progress Leader/Lead Professional/Head of Faculty:

- To seek to enhance the quality of homework set.
- To monitor and evaluate homework policy within their curriculum area.
- To praise accordingly student that consistently do homework and highlight the Students who need support.

The role of SLT:

- To provide staff, pupils and parents with the necessary homework documentation.
- To develop classroom practice that enhances homework across the academy.
- To review on an annual basis the academy homework policy.

Monitoring of Homework

Homework is very much an academy-wide topic. Therefore it requires a consistent approach across the all subjects. To ensure that everyone meets the homework guidelines set, there are the following options to monitor homework:

Classroom teachers / tutors:

- Using Classcharts teachers can keep a record of all the homework set daily, weekly, termly and yearly.
- Teachers can keep a record of student submissions to see quickly who has completed or missed homework deadlines.
- Teachers can search for any student they teach or at the school and see the homework the student has been set at any time.
- All teaching staff have access to the school homework reports which are designed to save time and can be exported to Excel.

Heads of Faculty/Progress Leaders:

- Use the homework reports provided by Classcharts to see how much / little homework has been set in the faculty quickly and accurately.
- Identify learners that are persistently missing deadlines.
- As a Head of Faculty or Progress Leader, see quickly how a cohort is engaging with homework across subjects.
- Deep dive into the quality of homework set by colleagues in the Faculty at any time without having to request for homework samples.
- Use the homework reports to ensure homework is consistently set and the quality is up to the standard and expectations required.
- Ensure colleagues in your Faculty save time by encouraging collaboration and sharing tasks and activities more effectively.

Inclusion:

- Use the homework reports provided by Classcharts to monitor the volume of homework individual learners have been set.
- See very quickly what homework individual students have been set and be able to share this information quickly and effectively with parent/carers.
- Use Classcharts to plan relevant support and preparation work required to support the students more effectively.

Students and Parent:

Classcharts makes it easy to for students to see how much homework and the details of homework they have at any given time by:

- Visiting the academy website (no login required)
- Logging in, the student can see a personalised homework calendar.
- Downloading the iPhone or Android app, students get reminders and push notifications about homework deadlines.
- Setting up their email, students can also receive email notifications and reminders.
- Classcharts also works on all modern browsers and devices and also with a 3G connection ensuring homework is accessible anytime, anywhere.
- Students have the option to print homework at school should the resources not be available at home.
- Students can look at the homework calendar to plan their time better and avoid missing deadlines.
- Parents can also scroll back historically to see what homework has been set.

Sanctions

Homework project set in KS3 will be given a point value of a minimum of one. If a student hands their project in completed on the day of the deadline they will be awarded 1 positive points on Classcharts.

However, if they fail to hand in their homework or it is not completed to an acceptable standard they will be awarded negative points.

If a student failed to hand in their homework, they will be awarded further negative points.

The policy below is for KS3:

Please remember that the idea behind this is to ensure that we are giving students the support required to complete homework, whilst still giving the expectation that homework will be done. There will be circumstances where students don't have the appropriate conditions at home required to complete homework. It is therefore imperative that a lack of homework is recorded on class charts and progress tutors notified so that we can put support in place.

If you are having reoccurring problems with a student failing to complete homework, please notify the Progress Leader and HLP Co-Ordinator.