

Home Learning Policy

Approval Date – October 2024

Review Date – October 2027

It is the policy of the governors that Westfield Academy supports effective learning and teaching by promoting home learning, enabling students to develop the skills they need to become effective, independent, life long learners. The completion of home learning tasks is important in developing good study habits, organisational and time management skills. It is also seen as an important link between home and school.

The intrinsic value of home learning activities is more important than the amount of time devoted to them and it is recognised that some flexibility will be required to allow students to take part in valuable extra-curricular activities. Students are expected to take personal responsibility for organising their time within reason.

Rationale

- High quality home learning tasks reinforce, extend and enhance the work that has taken place in the classroom and form part of well thought out schemes of learning.
- Home learning tasks may consist of a wide range of formats, e.g. independent learning, consolidation of work in class, practice, completion of assignments, research, reading, interviews, drawing, using ICT digital recording.
- Extended home learning projects should encourage students to take responsibility and develop the skills, confidence and motivation to be able to study effectively on their own.
- Tasks will provide a degree of challenge for students of all abilities; differentiated resources or tasks will be needed to support different groups of students.

Homework Arrangements

As a guide, the following gives an idea of how much time ought to be spent on home learning tasks:

Years 7 and 8 and 9

- Students are expected to spend up to 1 hour a week on a task set by a department. This task will involve extended writing.
- Homework will be graded using *KS3 Homework attempted* (where there has been a minimal attempt), *Bronze, Silver and Gold* and is recorded on class charts.
- If a student hands in Homework late or does not complete the homework this will be recorded on class charts. the student will be required to attend an after school homework session to complete the task.

In addition:

- Online homework will be set in Mathematics and Modern Foreign Languages.
- Departments may set additional work where appropriate.

Years 10 and 11

- Core subjects and options – minimum of 1 hour per subject per week.
- Additional tasks may be set as part of a student's personal development curriculum eg careers

Support will be provided for students in the form of Homework Club

Roles and Responsibilities

The Governing Body will:

- Seek the advice of the SLT on this policy, keep it up to date and make it available to parents.
- Monitor the effectiveness of this policy through the Learning & Teaching Sub-Committee.

The Headteacher, SLT and Deputy Headteacher will:

- Make arrangements to monitor the full implementation of this policy through review of Classcharts and Department review meetings.
- Ensure the policy is understood by staff, students and parents and that it is applied consistently across the school.
- Monitor the setting of home learning tasks on Classcharts.

Heads of Subject/Faculty will:

- Ensure the principles of this policy are in place and used by all members of their teams.
- Ensure high quality home learning tasks, which reinforce, extend and enhance the work that has taken place in the classroom or prepare for the forthcoming lessons, and form part of well thought out schemes of learning.
- Monitor the setting of home learning tasks through department quality assurance.

Teachers and/or Cover Supervisors will:

- Ensure that home learning tasks and extended projects are set in line with school policy.
- Ensure enough time is allocated to complete the task set in combination with other homeworks (ideally at least 1 week)
- Ensure that tasks are recorded on Classcharts.
- Monitor completion of home learning tasks and take appropriate action for non-completion of tasks.
- Ensure that home learning is acknowledged and where appropriate feedback is given.

Responsible

- Deputy Headteacher

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