

Stanborough



Mathematics & Computing Academy

Headteacher: Mrs M John

6th September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

At Stanborough School we are continuously reviewing and evaluating our educational practice and systems. Earlier this year we welcomed the views of parents, staff and students on our homework policy. We would now like to share with you the results of the survey and our proposed changes to the existing policy.

Survey results

228 parents took part in the homework survey.

139 parents responded that all children should be set homework, 22 parents responded that some children should be exempt, 35 felt that no homework should be given.

The biggest benefits of completing homework according to the survey were helping students develop independent learning skills, reinforcing work completed, giving parents an insight into students' learning, preparing children for the future and raising attainment.

Homework considered to have the biggest impact on progress were reading, using online revision platforms and revision videos, past paper exercises and completing worksheets.

Most parents felt that students should spend between 10-30 minutes on each homework at Key Stage 3, 30 minutes to 1 hour at Key Stage 4 and more than 1 hour at Key Stage 5.

Overall, this would equate to spending up to 1 hour a day on homework in Year 7-11.

The biggest drawbacks of homework were raising anxiety when children cannot complete the homework, encouraging children to complete homework when they are not engaged with the homework and homework cutting into family time.

Overall, there was good agreement between parents, staff and students on the above points.

Based on the survey results, we are trialing the following changes for the first term of this academic year before finalising the homework policy which will come into effect from January 2023.

Homework/Prep tasks are seen as an integral part of the learning experience for students. Homework must be meaningful, reinforce work already completed and help develop independent learning skills. Homework should not require parental support.

Homework/Prep must be set according to the 'Homework Timetable' provided for all students and staff.

- Grow and Succeed -

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Homework frequency

Year group	Subjects setting homework every week	Subjects setting homework every other week	Subjects setting homework twice a half term	Length of homework
7*	English Maths Science Language	History Geography	Art Technology IT RPE	Maximum of 30 minutes per subject + 20 minutes reading per day
8	English Maths Science Language	History Geography	Art Technology IT RPE Drama	Maximum of 30 minutes per subject + 20 minutes reading per day
9	English Maths Science Language	History Geography	Art Technology IT RPE Drama	Maximum of 30 minutes per subject + 20 minutes reading per day
10	English Maths Option subjects Science (one homework a week per teacher)	CSE (if required)	N/A	Maximum of 30 minutes per subject + 30 minutes a day reviewing work/independent revision
11	English Maths Option subjects Science (one homework a week per teacher)	CSE (if required)	N/A	Maximum of 30 minutes per subject + 30 minutes a day reviewing work/independent revision

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Year group	Subjects setting homework every week	Subjects setting homework every other week	Subjects setting homework twice a half term	Length of homework
Sixth Form	All subjects	N/A	N/A	Consortium guidelines are that students should be spending at least as long working outside the classroom as they are in the classroom.

*As part of our commitment to narrowing the gaps and improving the literacy of all students, Year 7 have weekly accelerated reading lessons in the LRC. These take place during one English lesson per week. As part of the accelerated learning programme students are required to read 20 minutes each day.

We have suspended the setting of homework for Year 7 until October half term (when core lessons will begin to set) to support students in settling into life at a new school. All remaining subjects will then set homework according to the timetable after Christmas.

It is acceptable for homework to be set over a longer period of time, especially if a class is working through a booklet of exercises. In this scenario, students should be given clear directions and targets on what should be completed on a weekly basis.

For these longer pieces of work, students should be given specific deadlines within these to help them with its ultimate completion.

Homework/Prep must always be set on Class Charts as per the homework timetable and should be collected/checked a week later. Students must have 5 school days minimum to complete the work.

Types of homework to set

Homework task	How feedback is likely to be provided
Vocabulary/definition learning	Self-marking online platform/tested at the beginning of a lesson
Mathswatch (online platform)	Self-marking
Carousel learning (online platform)	Self-marking
Memrise (online platform)	Self-marking
Seneca learning (online platform)	Self-marking
Reading	Reading log
Grammar or spelling exercises	Tested at the beginning of a lesson
Creating flashcards/mind maps etc. from revision books/textbooks/videos	Students bring cards to class and test each other
Art projects (2D alternatives must be	Peer-assessed in class

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Homework task	How feedback is likely to be provided
given)	
BBC Bitesize website quizzes	Students screenshot evidence of scores and submit those to their teacher
Past paper questions/essays with link to support materials/writing frames if required	Peer/self/teacher-assessed
Coursework completion	Verbal teacher feedback and exam board marked
Research a topic with clear success criteria (prep work)	Students share their findings in class
Pre-reading	Students arrive with questions they have about the prep-work/students arrive with a summary of the topic

Consequences and rewards

Rewards:

Bronze awards for good quality homework (e.g. new personal best, meeting most success criteria, creating high quality revision materials, reading for longer than 140 minutes a week, etc.).

Silver awards for outstanding homework.

Consequences:

If a child does not complete three pieces of homework over a term, they will be automatically issued with an after school detention. If they then fail to complete another three pieces of homework they will automatically be issued with a head teacher detention. If a child fails to complete nine pieces of homework then this will result in a Saturday detention. If a student fails to complete a subject homework on three occasions, the subject teacher will make contact with home to discuss the lack of homework. If a student fails to complete homework in a number of subjects, the student's form tutor and / or year leader will also get in touch with the parent to discuss what the issues are and how the school can best support the student to complete homework.

Yours faithfully



Ms D Kohls
Deputy Headteacher

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