



Homework Policy

Approving Body	Head Teacher
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Further Information/Guidance	The School Standards and Framework Act 1998: Sections 110 and 111

Rationale – Why is homework important?

"Homework is not an optional extra, but an essential part of a good education."

1999 White Paper, Excellence in Schools

At The Oakwood Academy, we believe that homework plays a vital part in a student's education. Relevant homework has significant benefits for secondary school students and will help them become independent learners.

Homework inextricably supports the teaching and learning in the classroom and should inspire and challenge every student to enable them to make excellent progress. Research says that homework is most effective when it involves practice or rehearsal of subject matter already taught. Students should not typically be exposed to new material for their home learning, unless they are judged more expert learners. Complex, open ended homework is often completed least effectively. Short, frequent homework, closely monitored by teachers is more likely to have more impact.

This could include

- Summarising notes
- Using knowledge organisers to recast classroom materials
- Guided research
- Exam question practice
- Guided revision etc.
- Online Quizzing

We are acutely aware that children have opportunities and experiences outside of school that are equally important in developing and enriching their lives. We will therefore give careful consideration to making homework relevant, well-balanced across the school, whilst encouraging self-motivation and independent learning.

Aims of homework at The Oakwood Academy

Oakwood Academy's Homework Policy is in place to:

- Develop a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- Consolidate learning and develop independence.
- Ensure that teaching staff, parents and students are aware of their responsibilities with regard to homework.
- Ensure that parents have clarity on what their child is expected to do.
- Encourage students to develop the responsibility and self-discipline required for independent study.
- Support students' learning experiences via revision and reinforcement.
- Work with parents and involve them in their child's learning.
- Raise standards of progress and attainment.

Roles and Responsibilities of Homework at The Oakwood Academy

HOD/HOFS

- Develop a departmental approach to homework.
- Monitor the frequency and quality of homework set in the department.
- To ensure, where possible, that homework is consistent across the faculty.
- Support teachers with incomplete homework, liaising with students and parents as necessary

Teachers

- Set up a regular programme of homework for students in line with HOF/HOD directions.
- Provide an explanation of homework tasks and ensure all students understand what they have to do.
- Ensure that a student with SEND has understood the homework task and that it is clearly recorded.
- Monitor homework regularly and make sure students are completing it to the best of their ability.
- Give feedback to students according to the department's feedback policy.
- Communicate with parents if there is a problem regarding homework.

Parents

- Support their child in completing homework.
- Make sure that their child completes homework to a high standard and on time.
- Provide suitable conditions and resources for their child to complete homework.
- Inform teachers of any issues that may arise and co-operate with the school to find a solution.

Students

- Take responsibility for learning and submit completed work in a timely manner.
- Make sure they understand the tasks that have been set and seek clarification if required.
- Take pride in the presentation and content of their homework and perform to a high standard.

Homework Procedures at The Oakwood Academy

All homework will be uploaded and can be accessed via Class Charts.

- Departments must have a clear rationale for homework tasks in line with their curriculum deliverance.
- Homework will be set regularly.
- The completion of homework is compulsory and teachers will expect homework to be completed on time and to a high standard.

Key Stage 3

- During a half-term, Maths, English and Science will set 5 pieces of homework.
- For other subjects, 2-3 pieces of homework will be set over a half-term, certain faculties may vary due to practical nature.
- Students will also be encouraged to read for pleasure for 20 minutes extra per week at home beyond their school based DEAR time. They will have a reading log to complete weekly which they will show in their AR/Reading lessons.

Key Stage 4

- Homework will be set weekly for all subjects – Homework should take between 30-45 minutes.

Students with SEND

- At Oakwood Academy, we recognise that students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) may require that specific tasks be set that are consistent with a student's SEND profile.
- While students with SEND may benefit from special tasks separate from the homework received from other students, it is important that they also do as much in common with other students.
- A balanced amount of the right type of homework will be set for students with SEND, in consultation with the parents and the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator.

Sanction for HWK

- If a student fails to hand in their HWK they can be set a same day 30-minute detention by their teacher in which they will be expected to complete the HWK.
- Students will no longer get extra time to hand in the HWK.

Oakwood Academy – Homework Expectations– 2023-24

Key Stage 3 Homework Expectations

Each piece of homework will take a minimum of 30 minutes to complete

Subjects expected to set at least 5 pieces of homework per half-term	Subjects expected to set homework 2-3 times per half-term
English	RE
Maths	ICT
Science	Art
	Music
	Drama
	History
	Geography
	French
	Design and Technology

Key Stage 4 Homework Expectations

All subjects, with the exception of core RE and PE, will set a piece of homework each week. The day on which the homework is set, will be dependent upon which day a student studies the subject. Each piece of homework will take a minimum of 30-45 minutes to complete. HWK will not be set during mock exam periods for Y10 and Y11 students to ensure they have the focus on the exams and they can continue with their revision process during this time.