
Homework Policy

School Ethos

At The Grey Coat Hospital homework supports the main Christian ethos of the school by encouraging students to take charge of their learning and to become independent, confident and reflective learners.

Parental Partnership

Homework is an integral part of schooling as it gives pupils the opportunity to develop and extend themselves beyond the scope of the class room, independently of the teacher. It is important that a positive attitude to learning at home is encouraged; as such the strategic link between home and school, in terms of the partnership with parents, plays a vital role.

Time Management

At the start of the academic year, pupils will receive a homework timetable. In year 7, pupils will start out with one hour of homework per day which will increase to 2 hours from year 9 onwards. In the Sixth Form, it is advised that every single hour that students do in school, they should match with an hour of study in their own time. Over a five year period regular homework would be equivalent to an extra year's education with consequent benefits.

Homework Aims

- To develop the skills of effective study and independent learning.
- To develop organisational and creative skills which encourages students to be hard working and self-disciplined.
- To consolidate and extend prior learning and prepare for forthcoming lessons.
- To enable pupils to engage in and to enjoy challenging, thought-provoking work.
- To undertake focused research by reading, reflecting and referencing properly.
- To utilise the study skills visited in PSHCE lessons (as detailed below).
- To take ownership of personal progress through organising and presenting work that is in line with the student's ability and potential.
- To use a full range of learning resources including the library, internet and media.

Students Responsibilities

(Teacher's and Parent/Carer's responsibilities are detailed within the full version of the policy)

- To use the school diary to record the homework set clearly and accurately.
- To complete homework on time, giving due thought and attention.
- To have the self respect and integrity to produce one's own work.

Students Responsibilities (continued)

- To play an active part and to do fair share of work in collaborative homework tasks.
- To follow up on meeting the targets set from marked homework.
- To make every effort to attend homework club when referred or recommended.
- To see subject teacher a.s.a.p. if there are any concerns regarding homework set.

Praise and Rewards

At the Grey Coat Hospital, there is a positive learning ethos and it is customary that model homework assignments are recognised and rewarded through the use of: display, the blog, merits, praise emails, diary messages, postcards home, certificates, telephone calls.

Discipline and Sanctions

Should a pupil fail to hand in homework, this will almost always result in a detention which will be communicated via the student diary. Homework report / subject report may be issued.

Project Work

This year there will be a focus on setting project work as homework. Pupils have specifically requested project work and they have commented on the degree of freedom, interest, creativity, thought and ownership that project work brings.

Assessment Tasks

Students will be set assessment tasks during holiday periods over the course of the year.

PSHCE Programme

We acknowledge that homework is not solely about the content, but also about the specific skills and tools for lifelong learning. As such, within the PSHCE programme, tutors will help to equip pupils with sound study skills.

The full Homework Policy is available to download on the school website.

Mobile Phone Policy

Both for educational and health and safety reasons we do not recommend that students bring mobile phones to school. If parents wish their daughters to carry a mobile phone it is only permitted on the understanding that it must be kept switched off and out of sight at all times. **Mobile Phones must not be seen nor heard at any time whether inside or outside of the school buildings.** This rule applies for during the school day and after school where a student is in school attending events or activities and clubs. Mobile phones that are seen or heard will be confiscated and held for 5 school days, after which students will be able to redeem them on payment of 50 pence. If you need to contact your daughter in case of emergency during the school day you can do so via the school office.