



**ST. ANNE'S**  
R.C. VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

## Homework Policy



## 1.0 Rationale for Homework at St Anne's

At St Anne's we put students at the heart of all we do and are unashamedly academically ambitious for all our students. We believe that homework is a valuable part of a student's learning, helping our students to develop lifelong skills including resilience, organisation, time management, self-reflection and ambition. Our aim is for homework to be structured, purposeful, impactful and coherent for all concerned. Any homework set for students should be done with the aim to broaden, consolidate, extend or enhance the learning experience.

At St Anne's, we endeavour to set the most effective types of homework, based upon evidence-informed practice and research in order to improve outcomes for all students.

## 2.0 Aims

Effective homework will:

- consolidate classroom learning;
- build student confidence
- engage students in their learning experience
- engage parental co-operation and support
- enhance the skills and attitudes students need for successful lifelong learning, including independence, investigation, enquiry, organisation, perseverance and self discipline
- keep parents in touch with what their children are doing in school and to give them the opportunity to help and support their child's learning.
- provide opportunities to go beyond what has been learnt in class or to prepare for material that is going to be covered in class.

## 3.0 Purpose of homework

Homework set across subjects will include the following types of activity:

- Reading – reading for pleasure, analysis of subject specific texts, evaluation of articles – the purpose of which is to improve vocabulary, communication grammar and broader academic knowledge.
- Spelling – key vocabulary, etymology of key words – the purpose of which is to ensure students have the necessary vocabulary to access each lesson and demonstrate their knowledge and understanding.
- Application – Extended writing tasks, exam questions, project activity – the purpose of which is for students to demonstrate how well they have understood and learnt something through its application in a different format.
- Retrieval – knowledge organiser activity, learning grid, SparxMath, SparxReader, creating a revision tool, replication of a previous task – the purpose of which is to challenge students to recall/remember specific information about a topic which is deemed key to accessing the curriculum.
- Practice – music recital, rehearsal, skills building, SparxMath, SparxReader – the purpose of which is for students to repeat and improve specific skills required to complete a task.



## 4.0 Frequency

### 4.1 KS3

Students at KS3 should have at least 60 minutes homework per night. Teachers always give an appropriate amount of time for students to complete tasks, with no less than 2 evenings between homework being set and the submission date. Knowledge organisers include independent learning tasks for students to complete in order to consolidate their learning further.

Subjects	Frequency
Core English and Maths	Weekly homework via Sparx
Core Science and RE	Fortnightly homework
Non-core subjects (Geography, History, MFL, Technology, Music, Art, Drama, Computing)	As a minimum you can expect homework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Once per half term for subjects with 1hr fortnight/week (Creative Arts, Technology, Computing)</li><li>• Once every 4 weeks for subjects with 3+ hours per fortnight (MFL, Geography, History)</li></ul>

### 4.2 KS4

Students at KS4 should have at least 90 minutes homework per night. Teachers always give an appropriate amount of time for students to complete tasks, with no less than 2 evenings between homework being set and the submission date. Knowledge organisers include independent learning tasks for students to complete in order to consolidate their learning further.

Subjects	Frequency
Core English and Maths	Weekly homework via Sparx
Core Science and RE	Fortnightly homework
Option Subjects	As a minimum you can expect homework to be set each fortnight.
Additional independent retrieval and practice tasks should be completed by students for every subject on a weekly basis.	

## 5.0 Feedback

Teachers will acknowledge all homework that is completed.

This could be through:

- awarding praise points/postcards/subject star awards
- Review of homework tasks in lesson
- Whole class feedback
- Individual feedback
- Grading

Teachers will give feedback that lets your child know:

- how they have done
- what they could do to improve



Feedback can include, and is not limited to:

- Self/Peer assessment during the lesson
- Verbal feedback
- Written feedback
- Progress tables (produced via online homework platforms such as Sparx)

## 6.0 Expectations

### 6.1 Students are expected to:

- Check homework tasks on ClassCharts daily
- Complete all homework to a high standard
- Submit homework on time
- Take pride in work completed out of class
- Speak to their teacher well in advance of the homework deadline where there are issues accessing the homework

### 6.2 Teachers will:

- Set homework that is appropriate to the learning stage
- Give adequate time for students to complete homework
- Celebrate excellent examples of students engaging with homework tasks
- Encourage independent learning
- Upload all homework tasks on ClassCharts and specific where a different platform is used to access the homework (e.g Sparx, GCSEPod, Seneca)

## 7.0 Supporting the completion of homework

### 7.1 Parental Support

Students are more likely to complete homework successfully when parents:

- Ask students to explain what they have been learning in lesson and what they have to do for the homework
- Provide a quiet space and adequate time in the evening for students to complete the work
- Help build confidence through praise and encouragement.
- Create a conversation around the homework by sharing what you know about the topic or watching TV programmes, visiting places that support their wider learning.
- Check ClassCharts regularly and remind students to do the same

Parents are encouraged to speak to the form tutor where there are concerns about a student being able to access the homework or if there are issues with meeting deadlines.

### 7.2 School Support

We understand that life can be very busy, and we actively encourage students to take part in extra-curricular activities such as sports teams. To ensure students have the best opportunities to complete homework successfully we have:

- A library resourced with computers so that students can complete work during lunch time



- Signed up to a number of online platforms that give instant feedback on homework and are engaging for students
- Teachers available on break duty and at lunch to help with homework concerns
- Knowledge organisers for each subject on the school website
- Curriculum overviews available on the website so that you can see what students are learning throughout the year
- Committed to logging all homework on ClassCharts, even if it is completed via a different platform, so that there is a central place to track homework activities
- Year 11 Interventions run after school from September to June

## 8.0 Research to support our Rationale

*Research by the EEF states:*

*Homework has a positive impact on average (+5 months), particularly with pupils in secondary schools.*

*Some pupils may not have a quiet space for home learning – it is important for schools to consider how home learning can be supported (e.g. through providing homework clubs for pupils).*

*Homework that is linked to classroom work tends to be more effective. In particular, studies that included feedback on homework had higher impacts on learning.*

*The quality of the task set appears to be more important than the quantity of work required from the pupil. There is some evidence that the impact of homework diminishes as the amount of time pupils spend on it increases.*

*Evidence also suggests that how homework relates to learning during normal school time is important. In the most effective examples homework was an integral part of learning, rather than an add-on.*

