



King's Academy Ringmer

# King's Academy Ringmer

## “in pursuit of excellence”

### Homework Policy

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Homework = Homework  
Homework = Homework Task

**Date:** October 2024

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## 1. Policy Statement

At King's Academy Ringmer, we believe that homework is an integral part of each subject curriculum. Homework is designed to help our students foster a positive attitude to lifelong learning. The reasons for setting regular homework task include, but are not limited to:

- consolidating learning
- extending learning
- providing revision opportunities
- allowing students to focus on a particular aspect of a subject that they particularly enjoy
- practising key skills
- allowing for pre-reading of material before a lesson

Effective homework tasks:

- are planned and focused rather than regular and routine
- include (where possible) a variety of tasks
- are differentiated for all learners
- emphasise quality over quantity
- clearly emphasise the purpose of the task

Homework tasks should be appropriate for the group they have been set for, and differentiated according to a student's individual learning needs.

Studies consistently show a positive relationship between homework and academic achievement, particularly at the secondary school level. According to research conducted by the Educational Endowment Foundation (EEF), regular and meaningful homework can improve academic performance by up to five months' additional progress each year, particularly when the assignments are well-planned and linked to classroom learning.

Research conducted by Harris Cooper and colleagues at Duke University found that 1 to 2 hours of homework per night for secondary school students can significantly improve learning outcomes. Students who completed assigned homework regularly outperformed those who did not, demonstrating better understanding and retention of key concepts.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) also found that students in countries with moderate homework loads tend to perform better on standardised tests like the PISA exams. Their data indicates that students who spend about an hour on homework each day achieve higher scores compared to those who either do no homework or spend an excessive amount of time on it.

## 2. General Principles

### 2a. Frequency and duration of Homework tasks:

As different subjects have different numbers of lesson times over the 2 week timetable, the frequency of homework tasks reflects this:

Number of lessons/2wks	Frequency of homework task	Number of lessons per homework tasks
8-12 (Core)	Every 1 week	4-6
6	2 Every 3 weeks	4.5
4	Every 2 weeks	4
3	Every 3 weeks	4.5
2	Every 4 weeks	4
1	Every Half Term	3

- Homework task should take 30-40 minutes in KS3 and an hour in KS4. Therefore, the duration of homework task a student receives is approximately:
- 7-8 hours per week for KS4
- 4-5 hours per week for KS3
- Students will be encouraged to learn how to manage their time when working independently, by planning to complete their Homework at an appropriate time. It is the student's responsibility to hand work in on time.
- Students are expected to check their Google classroom every day

## **2b. Homework Platforms**

### *2bi. Google*

- All homework tasks are put onto the Google Classroom class page by the classroom teacher
- The instructions of the task should be clear and easy to follow
- The expectation of what the student will produce should be clear
- All resources the students will need to complete the task should be available (worksheets, links, information sheets etc...)
- The due date should be set
- Teachers inform the students during lesson time that an homework task has been set and the information is on Google Classroom. If necessary the teacher should make time in the lesson to explain the task in more detail.
- Teachers should allow a minimum of 5 school days for students to complete the task, to allow the students sufficient time to ask for help if needed, and to help students to organise their time.
- Parents/carers will receive an email to inform them that they can sign up for daily or weekly 'Guardian summaries'. The Guardian summaries include all of the work that has been set on Google Classroom for the student, any work that hasn't been handed in and work that is due in, in the future.
- The academy will inform parents about the Homework policy at Parents Evenings, in the academy newsletter and via the academy website.

### *2bii Other online platforms*

- The academy may also use additional Internet-based platforms including but not limited to Sparx and Tassomai to provide homework, which include materials to support the learning as well as to provide tasks that are tailored to each individual student. These platforms may also send notification emails to parents/carers regarding work set and rates of completion.

## **3. Key Staff Involved:**

### **3a. The Principal**

- ensures the implementation of all aspects of this policy
- reviews this policy according to the agreed schedule
- ensures guidelines are available for students and parents on request

### **3b. The Vice Principal**

- ensures teaching staff have opportunities for training and updates
- ensures that new teaching staff are given training on Google Classroom
- liaises with the Network Manager to ensure that user names and passwords are created for new students at the beginning of the academic year
- ensures that reviews and evaluations of the policy are communicated to staff, students and parents

- works with Subject Leaders to monitor the provision of Homework
- reviews the provision of Homework in the light of research and parental, staff, and student feedback

### **3d. Subject Leaders**

- ensure that appropriate, regular Homework is set within the department
- monitor the quality and quantity of Homework within the department

### **3e. Subject teachers**

- set high quality, regular, appropriate Homework according to students' needs
- check that students have completed Homework on time and if necessary, use the appropriate academy sanctions
- contact parents if Homework is repeatedly not completed

### **3f. Form tutors**

- the first point of contact for parental enquiries regarding Homework

## **4. Completion of Homework**

Homework will be regularly monitored by subject staff. Some pieces of Homework may also be formatively assessed according to the subject assessment criteria.

Non- completion of homework tasks will be followed by the following actions:

- Subject teacher will give a "Not Ready- Homework" misdemeanor if homework is not completed.
- A chance to catch up will be given during a departmental homework drop-in session.
- If a student fails to attend the opportunity to catch up then a "Not Ready – HW Detention" will be given by the Subject Leader.
- The HW Detention will take place at lunchtime and taken by the Vice Principal.

Effort and results of homework task will be rewarded with achievement points.

Under Section 91 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, teachers and schools in England are given the statutory authority to discipline students whose behaviour falls below expected standards, including the imposition of detentions.