



Heworth Grange
School

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Homework Guidelines 2024-2025



Proud to be part of
Consilium
Academies

Introduction

At Consilium Academies and Heworth Grange School, we recognise the vital role of homework in enhancing educational outcomes for students in Years 7 to 11. This guidance aims to ensure homework contributes effectively to the learning process, aligning with the curriculum in our schools and preparing students for their GCSE examinations and further education. Our approach is designed to support classroom learning, foster independent study skills, and balance academic demands with students' well-being.

Objectives of Homework

- 1. Curriculum Support**
To reinforce and extend knowledge and skills related to the National Curriculum and GCSE preparation.
- 2. Skill Development**
To cultivate independent learning, critical thinking, and effective study habits.
- 3. Engagement and Retention**
To facilitate regular engagement with subject material, enhancing understanding and retention.
- 4. Communication**
To develop an effective partnership between the school, parents and carers in pursuing the academic aims of the school and the development of their child.

Homework Guidance

- 1. Quality Over Quantity**
Homework assignments will focus on quality and relevance, encouraging deep engagement with the subject matter. Tasks are designed to be meaningful, enhancing learning without being overly burdensome for staff and students.
- 2. Time Management**
Reflecting the developmental stage of secondary students, homework expectations will be appropriately calibrated. We will aim for a minimum of 15-30 minutes per subject per week, with considerations for upcoming exams and key stages.
- 3. Constructive Feedback**
Teachers or students (through self/peer assessment) will provide timely feedback on homework assignments, aimed at recognising effort, correcting misunderstandings, and guiding future learning. This may automatically be done if using an online homework platform, but it is vital the teacher checks this for any misconceptions.
- 4. Individualised Approach**
Recognising the diverse needs and abilities of students, homework tasks will be ambitious for all students but scaffolded where appropriate.
- 5. Parental and Guardian Engagement**
While students are encouraged to complete homework independently; parents and guardians play a crucial role in providing a conducive environment for study and encouraging a routine. Communication between home and school is key to addressing any concerns or difficulties related to homework.
- 6. Artificial Intelligence**
Students are expected to adhere to the principles of academic honesty and complete their assignments independently, except when collaborative work is explicitly authorised. While students may use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to assist with their homework, these tools must not complete assignments on their behalf. This guidance ensures that students properly engage with their learning material and develop essential problem-solving skills. At Key Stage 4, the use of AI tools for completing coursework is strictly prohibited. Violations involving inappropriate use of AI may result in sanctions by the exam board.

Key Stage 3 Overview

At Key Stage 3, there will be two broad types of homework: linked to current learning, and project-based extended learning. These will fall roughly into the terms indicated below.

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Homework linked to current learning		Project-based extended learning

Key Stage 3 homework linked to current learning

At Key Stage 3, all students will complete homework in the following subjects: English, Maths, Science, History, Geography and MFL. Homework in these subjects will be set once every two weeks. A minimum of 15 minutes of Reading Wise will also be set per 2-week cycle.

Subject teachers will set deadlines, which will be shared on ClassCharts, ensuring that students have appropriate time to complete their work. Homework tasks will differ depending on the teacher and the subject; example tasks may include reading tasks, project work, coursework, essays, revision and research activities.

An example timetable is given below.

Week 1: set homework

<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
<i>English 15 minutes</i>	<i>Maths 15 minutes</i>	<i>Science 15 minutes</i>	<i>Geography 15 minutes</i>
	<i>Reading Wise 15 minutes</i>	<i>History 15 minutes</i>	<i>Spanish 15 minutes</i>

Week 2: collect, review homework, reteach

During week 2 teachers or students (through self/peer assessment) will check submission of homework and plan to address misconceptions in their subsequent teaching. Students will receive positive praise points through ClassCharts for successful completion of homework, which supports the wider culture of praise in the school.

Key Stage 3 project-based extended learning

In term 3 for Key Stage 3, students will complete project-based homework set by all subjects in school which will last over a term. This could range from students producing a newspaper or magazine article in English, a budget planner in maths, creation of a time capsule in History or practicing a performance which is showcased in lessons for music or drama. This work will be collected and showcased as part of the Wonderful Work praise strategy.

Key Stage 4 Overview

At Key Stage 4, homework will be set fortnightly for all assessed subjects that are studied. Subject teachers will set deadlines, which will be shared on ClassCharts, ensuring that students have appropriate time to complete their work. Homework tasks will differ depending on the teacher and the subject; example tasks may include reading tasks, project work, coursework, essays, revision and research activities.

Key Stage 3 homework linked to current learning

At Key Stage 3, all students will complete homework in the following subjects: English, Maths, Science, History, Geography and MFL. Homework in these subjects will be set once every two weeks. A minimum of 15 minutes of Reading Wise will also be set per 2-week cycle.

Subject teachers will set deadlines, which will be shared on ClassCharts, ensuring that students have ample time to complete their work. Homework tasks will differ depending on the teacher and the subject, though at Key Stage 4 the aim is to ensure students are exam-ready and prepared for further education. Tasks will, therefore, focus principally on key learning skills and the recall and application of key areas of curriculum knowledge.

An example timetable is given below.

Week 1: set homework

<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
<i>English 30 minutes</i>	<i>Maths 30 minutes</i>	<i>Science 30 minutes</i>	<i>Option C 30 minutes</i>
<i>Independent revision</i>	<i>Option A 30 minutes</i>	<i>Option B 30 minutes</i>	<i>Independent revision</i>

Week 2: collect, review homework, reteach

During week 2 teachers or students (through self/peer assessment) will check submission of homework and plan to address misconceptions in their subsequent teaching. Students will receive positive praise points through ClassCharts for successful completion of homework, which supports the wider culture of praise in the school.

Implementation and Review

This policy will undergo an annual review to incorporate feedback and adapt to evolving educational strategies and student needs. Teachers will receive ongoing support and training in assigning and assessing homework effectively. Resources and workshops will be offered to parents and guardians to aid in supporting their children's learning at home.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Trust Homework Lead
 - Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness and impact of homework across the schools.
- School Homework Lead
 - Facilitation of staff/parent and student training around the various educational methods/platforms.
 - Develop and implement a homework policy tailored to the specific needs of the school.
 - Ensure the quality and consistency of homework assignments, monitoring their effectiveness in supporting classroom learning.
 - Collaborate with the school behaviour lead to foster a culture of completion and excellence in homework submissions and implementation of sanctions for non-completion (where appropriate).
- Heads of Subject
 - Collaborate with colleagues across the trust to align homework assignments with the curriculum.
 - Ensure the quality and relevance of homework tasks, monitoring their integration into classroom instruction for maximum impact.
- Heads of Subject
 - Collaborate with colleagues across the trust to align homework assignments with the curriculum.
 - Ensure the quality and relevance of homework tasks, monitoring their integration into classroom instruction for maximum impact.
- Parents and Carers
 - Parents and carers are asked to encourage their child to allocate sufficient time to their homework.
 - Parents and carers can support their child by providing a good working space at home.
 - Parents and carers are asked to check ClassCharts regularly so that they are aware of tasks set.

Use of ICT

The use of ICT and the internet has made a significant contribution to the amount of reference material available at home and the ease and speed with which it can be accessed. However, our teachers expect pupils to produce their own work. Pupils are not undertaking a worthwhile learning activity by merely downloading and printing out or copying and pasting something that has been written by somebody else.

While the school will recommend sites or apps to enhance a child's educational experience at home, the school does not take responsibility for internet use at home. Parents should take the steps to ensure their child's safety online at home.

Conclusion

Through this targeted homework policy for Years 7 to 11, Consilium Academies Trust and Heworth Grange is dedicated to maximising the educational benefits of homework, ensuring it serves as a valuable tool in our students' academic journey. We aim to strike a balance between advancing academic skills and maintaining students' well-being, preparing them for successful GCSE outcomes and lifelong learning.