

HOMWORK POLICY

Vision:

- The purpose of homework is to “**introduce, practise or extend subject knowledge**”.
- Homework at Walthamstow Academy is integral to all subject curricula.
- All students understand that homework is a core component of the curriculum and, therefore, understand its importance.

The amount of homework set each day by the Academy is not rigidly controlled but will be in line with national Government recommendations:

- **Year 7-8 50 to 60 minutes per evening (e.g. 2 x 25-30 minute tasks)**
- **Year 9 - 10 70 to 90 minutes per evening (e.g. 2 x 35-45 minute tasks)**
- **Year 11 100 to 120 minutes per evening (e.g. 2 x 50-60 minute tasks)**
- **Year 12-13 2 to 3 hours per school day (including Independent Study lessons)**

On some days the total may be less than these amounts but total amounts should rarely exceed these levels. The due date must always be at least 2 school days in advance to allow students to manage their own time outside school and ask for help if needed.

Google Classroom

At Walthamstow Academy all teachers are required to post their homework on Google Classroom. Every teacher has their own personal log in details, which allow them to post homework that is specific to their classes. Google Classroom can be accessed at home by students, who have their own individual log in details.

Reading Comprehensions

Each subject teacher will set weekly or fortnightly reading comprehensions (created by the department) to every class in every year group (Year 7 – Year 13) on a weekly or fortnightly basis, depending on their lesson frequency. These reading comprehensions are an integral component of the whole school focus on improving student literacy and student reading ages, whilst also developing student independence, enabling parents to help their children with their homework and developing student cultural capital.

Online Learning Platforms

Subject teachers may use a range of online learning platforms which will introduce subject knowledge or give students the opportunity to practise or extend their subject knowledge to set homework, such as:

- Seneca Learning
- The Everlearner
- Hegarty Maths
- Tassomai
- Massolit

Expectations, Roles and Responsibilities

Subject/Curriculum Leaders will:

- Create a range of homework activities which introduce, practise or extend student subject knowledge.
- Ensure that homework is appropriately interleaved within the curriculum so that students are committing subject knowledge to their long term memories
- Provide Knowledge Organisers for Key Stage 3 students' homework.
- Provide Reading Comprehensions for all year groups.

- Ensure that all teachers in their department are posting homework on Google Classroom
- Quality assure homework set by teachers in their department to ensure high quality homework is being set and that students are producing high quality homework.

Classroom teachers will:

- Set homework regularly in line with departmental schemes of work and year group homework guidelines.
- Set homework using Knowledge Organisers in Key Stage 3 and reading comprehensions for all year groups.
- Ensure that all homework is posted on Google Classroom and that instructions are clear, with a due date that is at least 2 school days in advance.
- Ensure that students have all the resources they need to complete the tasks.
- Monitor completion of homework.
- Give constructive feedback and appropriate rewards.
- Involve parents where necessary.

Students should:

- Access Google Classroom to ensure they clearly understand the homework they have been set by their teachers and the due date.
- Make sure they understand what needs to be done. If not, ask their teacher.
- Bring their Essential Knowledge booklet to school every day (Key Stage 3 students)
- Set aside a regular time for homework.
- Complete all homework to the best of their ability and meet all deadlines.

Parents should:

- Set up a homework-friendly area, giving their child a well-lit place to complete homework.
- Schedule a regular study time for their child to complete homework.
- Help their child to make a homework plan, breaking up work into manageable chunks.
- Keep distractions to a minimum, ensuring television, loud music or phone calls are not distracting their child from completing homework.
- Monitor their child, asking questions about assignments, and tests.
- Ask their child to see their Essential Knowledge booklet (Key Stage 3) and Reading Comprehensions (all year groups) on a regular basis.
- Praise the efforts of their child, by giving recognition when they have put a lot of effort into their homework.

Form Tutors will:

- Ensure that all students in their Tutor Group have been given their own personal Google Classroom log in details
- Follow up with students/teachers if homework is not posted on Google Classroom/apparently not set.
- Advise students on planning their time.

Heads of Year will:

- Quality assure the homework being set for their year group by each subject
- Gain feedback from parents regarding how parents are monitoring the homework their child has been set, and how effective parents feel Google Classroom is in supporting them to monitor their child.
- Gain feedback from students to monitor if students are developing their subject knowledge as a result of their homework

The Assistant Principal in charge of Homework will:

- Ensure that all teaching staff receive a Google Classroom log-in to enable them to be able to post homework on Google Classroom.
- Determine the policy.
- Lead whole school quality assurance of homework.