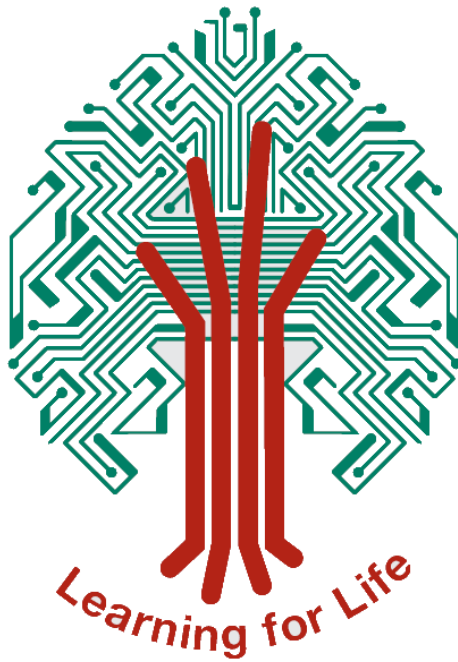




Welland Park
Academy



HOMework GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Last updated November 2025

Aims

Homework is an essential tool to enable students to develop their independent learning and self-discipline, as well as preparing them for the requirements of study at GCSE and beyond. The purpose of homework is to embed knowledge; enhance student achievement; to help students become self-directed, independent learners; and to develop good work habits. The setting and assessment of homework activities is a vital part of preparing our students for success in their lives beyond school. Homework plays a part in enabling our students to develop skills that ensure they become independent, self-reflective and well-organised learners with the ability to prioritise their commitments and to meet deadlines. The academy aims to encourage parental involvement through open communication with parents/ carers as research shows that Home Learning is more effective when parents show interest, enthusiasm and support for their child's work. At the start of each academic year we supply all parents and carers with access to Edulink, where staff will record homework.

In this policy, the term 'Homework' is used to describe any independent work which students complete outside formal lessons. This is often completed at home but may also be completed at school during break, lunchtime or at after school sessions.

Homework has six key priorities:

- To promote a love of learning and discovery for its own sake
- To enhance individual creativity and independent thinking
- To develop the skills and habits necessary to become independent and confident lifelong learners
- To embed, enrich and complement the academy curriculum
- To enhance and extend the knowledge, understanding and skills beyond those taught in each subject's schemes of learning
- To enable parents and carers to be actively involved with their child's learning and to promote opportunities for learning in the academy, the community, and the wider world.

Setting Homework

It is expected that students at Key Stage Three should complete around five hours of homework per week during term time. This will be set by their subject teachers using the online homework calendar Edulink. Each student is issued with their account details at the start of each academic year so they can have access via any internet enabled device to a complete list of homework that has been set. Parents and students can also download the free app versions for iOS and Android devices for additional functionality. Homework will be a mixture of online tasks, more traditional activities, and research or activities to develop cultural capital.

It will include any resources needed to complete the activity such as downloadable copies of worksheets, links to websites or other online homework systems such as Dr Frost, My Maths or Doodle ICT. Parents are also issued with Edulink log in details to access their child's individual homework tasks.

Homework will be set over more than one night so that students have the opportunity to plan when they are able to complete it and continue with their extra-curricular activities. Teachers will support students by making sure they are aware of tasks set on Edulink in lessons as appropriate. Homework can be handed in during lessons or the teacher may offer an alternative method of submission such as e-mail or online submission.

Students are able to access ICT facilities in the Library at break, lunchtime and after school if they need to use ICT for their homework or to print out work completed at home. They should plan this effectively to avoid leaving this too late before the homework is due to be submitted.

The computer suite B11 is also open every lunchtime for students to book a computer for homework or other educational activity. When completing homework using ICT, students should be reminded that work handed in must be their own work. Copyright, plagiarism and e-safety should be discussed with students when relevant to their completion of a task.

Homework is an integral part of the curriculum. It will vary a great deal in nature and length but it should always be seen as relevant to students' knowledge or skills. Homework set should be appropriate to the ability of our students. It should be sufficiently differentiated so that it is accessible to all but provide a relevant level of challenge where necessary.

Principles of homework as agreed by staff:

- Allow at least 2-3 days to complete
- Don't upload to Edulink during weekend or holiday (can be set before to be done then)
- Max 1 x 30min/wk KS3
- Max 1 x 1 hr KS4 (plus revision)
- All on Edulink (even if directing student to another programme)
- Balance/ variety of tasks
- Print out worksheets if they need to be written on – some students do not have the access or tech to print/complete
- Upload worksheets to help those who have lost paper copy
- Set out clear stepped instructions – for all (esp SEND)
- Set expected timings
- Set tasks (esp KS3), ie 'make a mind map' / 'create two revision cards of notes' rather than general 'revise'
- Remind students that :
 - Library & D11 are available every lunchtime
 - Library and Homework Club in AC are available afterschool to complete homework

Assessment

Homework is marked and recorded according to the general school marking and feedback policy, including self- and peer-assessment. For homework to be seen as an important and valued part of teaching, where it has been submitted it needs to be returned to students within a timeframe to be beneficial to learning. Assessment should always follow departmental guidelines and if possible should suggest targets for improvement. Homework that is completed well should be acknowledged and praised. This may take the form of individual or public recognition, work being displayed with medal points or commendations issued. Students should respond to teachers' comments and feedback in line with the whole school marking and feedback policy.

Monitoring homework

Teachers should keep a record of homework completed and where homework is not submitted, students will be expected to ensure this is remedied for the following lesson. However, a disproportionate amount of time and effort should not be spent by the class teacher in following up missing or incomplete homework. A C1 or C2 referral should be made via SIMS/ Edulink to record issues regarding the completion of homework so that any pattern across subjects can be identified.

SLT Links and HODs should also use the homework reports section on Edulink to monitor the process within their subject area to ensure consistency across the department. Form Tutors should also monitor homework being set to their form and identify any issues to the relevant ML.

Reporting

School reports and data progress checks have information about a student's attitude to learning. This judgement should be made with reference to the quality of homework produced during the term in each subject area. Parents' Evenings are also an opportunity to discuss any homework issues.