



Rockwood
Academy

Homework Policy

Date of Last review	5 January 2016	Review Period	1 Year
Date of last review	5 January 2017	Owner	Assistant Vice Principal
Type of policy	Non Statutory - Educational	LGB or Board Approval:	LGB

Collaboration Opportunity Respect Excellence

1. The purpose of homework

All pupils are set homework tasks:

- **To support and enhance pupils' learning in school.**
Extra study at home can help children to remember and understand their school work better and gives them a chance to practice skills.
- **To promote lifelong learning and good habits of home study.**
Pupils need to learn to study on their own, so that when they leave school they can continue to learn new things in a changing world. We must encourage them to become more and more independent.
- **To develop effective individual study skills.**
In later life more and more learning and study is done outside school or college. Children need to start to practice the skills from an early age.
- **To support the development of effective use of time.**
Children need to learn how to plan their use of time; how to fit in work and leisure. We hope they will gradually learn to think and plan ahead and to be well organised.

2. Daily Homework

Pupils should expect to spend the following lengths of time on homework tasks:

- Year 7 and 8 30-45 minutes a day
- Year 9,10 and 11 1 – 2 hours a day

3. General Organisation

- Every student at Rockwood Academy can expect to be given homework on a regular basis in accordance with the homework timetable for the year group.
- It is the duty of every subject teacher to set clearly defined tasks which relate to departmental schemes of work.
- A variety of tasks, not necessarily all written, should be set. Allowanced for differentiation should be made.
- Homework should be checked with prompt feedback to students.
- Homework tasks should complement and bear relevance to work done in lessons. Tasks should consolidate learning and prepare students for the next stage in their learning.
- Tasks set should be written, e.g. on the board, and students should be given the opportunity to ask for clarification if necessary.
- The subject teachers should insist that every piece of homework is recorded on the appropriate page in the homework planner. Students should also record their homework in the homework log in the back of their exercise book.
- It is the responsibility of the Head of Department to check and ensure that the departmental policy on homework and marking is being fully implemented by every teacher in the department.

4. The role of the form tutor

- To ensure, at the beginning of every year, that each student in the form is given a homework planner.
- To ensure the homework timetable is placed at the front of the planner at the start

of the year:

- To ensure every student has their planner in school every day.
- The form tutor frequently reads through the planners, ensuring that homework is being set and recorded, noting comments from parents and teachers and signing the planners in the spaces allocated. If parents have failed to sign, then students should be asked to give a reason for this.
- Should a student lose or deface their planner then a payment of £2.00 is to be made for a replacement.

5. The role of the Learning Directors and Learning Champions

- To monitor the extent to which planners are being effectively used and signed.
- To support form tutors in taking appropriate action to ensure that all students gain from the homework policy. This includes the use of praise as well as sanctions.
- To liaise with parents so that they may be kept fully informed of the homework policy and reminded of the partnership role expected of them.

6. The role of parents

- To make it clear to children that they value homework, and support the school by explaining how it can help them make progress.
- To read and sign their child's homework planner weekly.
- To ensure, as far as possible, that their child completes homework, and where appropriate, assist in its organisation.
- To provide somewhere to study with a desk or table to write on.
- To expect deadlines to be met and check that they are.
- To contact the school if their child does not seem to be receiving the allocated amount of homework.

A sample of parents will annually give their perceptions as to quality and quantity of homework through the generic parental questionnaire.

7. Homework Clubs

- These are provided regularly in many departments across the curriculum after 3.15pm. Sometimes they are related to specific tasks, e.g. GCSE Coursework or revision for examinations.
- The library is open every day until 4.00pm for study, including use of computers.

8. Monitoring

- Heads of Department to monitor the quantity and quality of homework being set in their areas. Homework should be an agenda item at least one departmental meeting per year.

Head of Department will monitor quality and quantity of homework set using the appropriate quality assurance proforma with respect to:

- Pupil planners
- Teacher planners
- Pupil work check

- The **Senior** Leadership Group to monitor homework **through weekly book scruntinies**. They will also review the policy annually.

*Leadership Team will monitor quality & quantity of homework using the appropriate **quality assurance proforma** with respect to:*

- Pupil planners
- Teacher planners
- Pupil work check
- Conversation **with Heads of Department**
- **Book scruntinies**
- **Learning walks**

A report of the annual review to be sent to the Curriculum Committee of the governing body.