



HOMEWORK POLICY & GUIDELINES

At Queen Mary's High School homework is seen as an integral part of the learning process and as such must complement learning that takes place in lessons.

The main purposes of homework at Queen Mary's High School are to:

- Encourage students to develop the skills, confidence and motivation needed to study effectively on their own. This is vital given the importance we place on lifelong learning and adaptability.
- Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding developed at school.
- Extend school learning, for example through additional reading and research.
- Sustain the involvement of parents and carers in the management of pupils' learning and keep them informed about the work pupils are doing.
- Manage particular demands, such as GCSE course work and completion of other extended assignments.

The nature of homework will be planned at departmental level to ensure consistency. Homework when appropriate will be marked to clear criteria in line with departmental assessment policies and relevant feedback will be given by the teacher to help the student progress by showing her or him what or how to improve.

The students have been issued with study planners and they should write in these their homework and the handing in date whenever possible. If homework is not completed teachers should make a note.

Parents are requested to scrutinise and sign their daughter's planner each week. Poor homework records should be reported to the appropriate Head of Year by subject staff. Form tutors should check these planners from time to time. The planners should be initialled/signed to indicate that they have been checked.

Obviously there are occasions when homework may not be set. These occasions should be seen as the exception and not the 'norm'.

Homework guidelines

1. Homework will not be set for homework's sake, rather it should always be purposeful and related to work being completed in the classroom.
2. All staff will set homework which will be short and focussed. This can include research, reading, practice or consolidation. It could also be reflective; in this case it should be evidenced by the student.
3. In year 7 there will be a max of 2 subjects per night. One 30-minute homework per cycle for subjects except English, Maths, Science and MFL which will have one 20-minute homework per week. There will be no PSHCE homework.
4. Y7 – no homework for first 2 weeks, then only English, Maths, Science and MFL (20 minutes) until half-term.

After half-term one homework per cycle for all other subjects (30 minutes)

Y8 – As year 7 but starting with all subjects immediately. There will be some nights with 3 homeworks.

Y9 – Art, Music, Drama, Computer Science one homework per cycle (40 minutes), all other subjects one homework per week (40 minutes)

Y10 & 11 = One homework per subject per week (40 minutes)

5. Staff should consider using a code system and require students to write their own 'next steps' to improve their learning.

If a student is regularly producing work which is below standard or not completed on time, steps are taken, usually in consultation with parents, to see that the matter is put right. An outline homework timetable is drawn up at the beginning of the year for each Key Stage as a safeguard to prevent a student being over-burdened at any one time. There is usually a considerable amount of flexibility as to when a student does the work and learning to cope with this provides practice in organising workloads.

AE Bruton

03.02.20