

Highfield Humanities College



HOMWORK POLICY

We aim to provide a supportive, friendly learning environment that promotes high achievement, a desire to learn and respect for others. Highfield Humanities College is committed to high achievement, effective teaching and learning and good relationships between staff, pupils, parents and the wider community. The School promotes the knowledge, skills and attributes essential for adult life in a rapidly changing technologically based society. The wider community is embraced as a valued contributor to pupils' attainment and personal development.

Compiled by: P. Westhorpe	Date: September 2007
Adopted by: Governors – Pupil Development	Date: 25 / 01 / 2010
Date Revised: September 2011	Date Ratified: 31 st October 2011
Policy to be updated: 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / 5 years	Next update due: September 2012
DDA Compliant: 	



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Tel: (01253) 310925
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Dear Parents:

Headteacher: Mr.I.Evans.B.Ed., NPQH

KS3/KS4 Homework Timetable and Independent Study

Please find attached your child's homework timetable.

I would ask you to carefully check that homework is being completed on time and your child is spending sufficient time on tasks.

I would also like you to ensure that your child is using their planner to record homework.

Planners must be brought to school each day and if lost pupils are expected to pay £2.00 to buy a replacement.

If you think your child is getting too much or too little homework please contact their class teacher by putting a note in their planner or exercise book.

In addition to formal homework set by our staff, many pupils use SAM LEARNING, BBC Bitesize, MyMaths or other online programs to enhance their learning. This independent study would give your child a real advantage when examinations are taken.

Finally, please get your child into the habit of doing homework on the night it is set and not leaving it until the last minute.

There is clear evidence that children who spend time doing quality homework progress faster in class.

Thank you for your help - please sign the slip below and return it to your child's house tutor to confirm you have received this information.

Mr P Westhorpe
Deputy Headteacher

Return this cut off to your child's house tutor:

Child's Name Tutor Group

I have received my child's homework timetable.

Signed(Parent/Guardian) Date

Homework: what parents need to know!

Successful schools encourage pupils to extend their learning by setting regular homework which is designed to enhance the work children do in their classes.

In order to spread the workload for your child I have consulted with staff and agreed the following homework timetable.

Homework Timetable 2011 - Key Stage 3

Year 7 (Homework for citizenship is set on different days throughout the week)

	7 F-BAND	7 G-BAND
Monday	Te Ar Mu IT	Te Ar Mu IT
Tuesday	Ma Fr	Ma
Wednesday	En	En Fr
Thursday	Sc	Sc
Friday	Hu	Hu

Year 8 (Homework for citizenship is set on different days throughout the week)

	8 F-BAND	8 G-BAND
Monday	Hu	Hu
Tuesday	Ma MFL	Ma MFL
Wednesday	Sc	Sc
Thursday	En	En
Friday	Te Ar Mu IT	Te Ar Mu IT

Year 9

	9 F-BAND	9 G-BAND
Monday	Sc Fr	Ma Fr
Tuesday	Hi (F1 F2 F4) (Te Ar Mu IT)	Hi (G1 G2 G4 G5) Gg (G3) (Te Ar Mu IT)
Wednesday	(Te Ar Mu IT) RE En	(Te Ar Mu IT) RE (G2 G3 G5) En
Thursday	Hi (F3) Gg	RR (G1 G4) Gg (G1 G2 G4 G5)
Friday	Ma	Sc

Highfield Humanities College plans homework carefully alongside work that pupils do in class, and we ensure that all activities are appropriate for individual children.

Here are some guidelines to give you an idea of how much time your child should be spending on their homework.

The Government Guidelines for secondary school children are:

- Years 7 and 8: 45 to 90 minutes per day
- Year 9: 1 to 2 hours per day
- Years 10 and 11: 1.5 to 2.5 hours per day

Pupils should not be expected to spend much longer on homework than the guide times.

It doesn't matter if activities don't take as long as the guide times as long as they are useful. We organise homework carefully so that pupils aren't asked to do too much on any one day.

Subjects should set the following minimum/maximum homework times:

Yr 7/8	Maths	30 mins / 60 mins
	English	30 mins / 60 mins
	Science	30 mins / 60 mins
	MFL	30 mins / 60 mins
	Te	15 mins / 30 mins
	Ar	15 mins / 30 mins
	Mu	15 mins / 30 mins
	IT	15 mins / 30 mins
	Hum	45 mins / 60 mins
	Citizenship	15 mins/ 30 mins

Total 4 hr / 7 hr 30 mins

Yr 9	Maths	45 mins / 90 mins
	English	45 mins / 90 mins
	Science	45 mins / 90 mins
	MFL	45 mins / 90 mins
	Te	15 mins / 60 mins
	Ar	15 mins / 60 mins
	Mu	15 mins / 60 mins
	IT	15 mins / 60 mins
	Gg	20 mins / 40 mins
	Hi	20 mins / 40 mins
	RE *	20 mins / 40 mins *(set fortnightly)

Total 5 hours / 11 hours

Homework activities

All homework activities should be related to work that pupils are doing at school.

However, homework should not always be written work.

Homework activities may include:

- reading
- preparing a presentation to the class
- finding out information
- making something
- trying out a simple scientific experiment
- cooking

It doesn't matter if activities don't take as long as the guide times as long as they are useful.

However:

- Teachers try to vary pupil's homework activities throughout the year.
- Ask pupils to record their homework in their planners.
- Set homework regularly as it is easier if pupils get into a routine!
- Mark homework and give feedback

Advice is given to parents via the Direct Gov Website (see address below)

There is also a direct link to these pages on our school website.

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Parents/Schoolslearninganddevelopment/SchoolLife/DG_179508

To check if your child is getting the homework they are entitled to please ask them the following questions from time to time:

- "Is homework set regularly (weekly) in each subject?"
- "On average, how long does it take to do your homework each night?"
- "Does your teacher check and mark your homework promptly and does your teacher give you help and advice on how to improve your work?"
- "Do you use your planner to make a note of your homework each week?"
- "Can you show me some of your recent homework tasks and can I see what your teachers thought of your work?"

If your child often uses computer programs such as MyMaths or SAM Learning please make sure they record the activity into their exercise books.

Remember tasks should vary so don't rely on computer exercises too much.

Planners:

We invest a large amount of money each year in buying high quality planners for our pupils.

All pupils have been given a planner which they must bring to school each day. It is wise to put their name on several pages of the planner so it can be returned to them if it is lost.

Homework should be recorded in planners.

Planners also contain pages with information about school holiday dates, uniform, revision techniques and much more.

If planners are lost replacements must be purchased at a cost of £2.00 from the school office.

Pupils who do not bring their planners to school may be punished.

Parents can help by asking their children to show them their planner and how they are using it.

Finally:

If parents have concerns over homework they should initially contact the teacher directly by note. If these concerns continue please ring the school and speak to your child's pastoral manager or house tutor.

Peter Westhorpe
Deputy Headteacher.

KS4 Homework Timetable and Independent Study

Highfield Humanities College

Homework: what parents need to know!

Successful schools encourage pupils to extend their learning by setting regular homework which is designed to enhance the work children do in their classes. In order to spread the workload for your child I have consulted with staff and agreed the following homework timetable.

Homework Timetable 2011

Key Stage 4

	10 F	10 G
Monday	En	En RE
Tuesday	OPTION C and OPTION S	
Wednesday	OPTION A and OPTION B	
Thursday	Sc RE	Sc
Friday	Ma	Ma

	11 F	11 G
Monday	Sc Ma	
Tuesday	OPTION A and OPTION B	
Wednesday	OPTION C and RE	
Thursday	OPTION S	
Friday	En	

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Here are some guidelines to give you an idea of how much time your child should be spending on their homework.

The Government Guidelines for secondary school children are:

- Years 10 and 11: 1.5 to 2.5 hours per day

Pupils shouldn't be expected to spend much longer on homework than the guide times.

It doesn't matter if activities don't take as long as the guide times as long as they are useful. We organise homework carefully so that pupils aren't asked to do too much on any one day.

Subjects should set the following minimum/maximum homework times:

Yr 10/11	Maths	60 mins / 90 mins
	English	60 mins / 90 mins
	Science	60 mins / 90 mins
	OPTION A	60 mins / 90 mins
	OPTION B	60 mins / 90 mins
	OPTION C	60 mins / 90 mins
	OPTION S	60 mins / 90 mins
	RE	30 mins / 45 mins *(set fortnightly)
	Total	<u>7 hours 30 mins / 11 hours 15 mins</u>

Homework activities

All homework activities should be related to work that pupils are doing at school.

However, homework should not always be written work.

Homework activities may include:

- examination revision
- preparing a presentation to the class
- finding out information and writing reports
- trying past paper examination questions
- trying out a simple scientific experiment
- coursework assignments

It doesn't matter if activities don't take as long as the guide times as long as they are useful.

However:

- Teachers try to vary pupil's homework activities throughout the year.
- They ask pupils to record their homework in their planners.
- They set homework regularly as it is easier if pupils get into a routine!
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- "Do you use your planner to make a note of your homework each week?"
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Pupils who do not bring their planners to school may be punished.

Parents can help by asking their children to show them their planner and how they are using it.

Independent Learning:

In addition to formal homework set in class pupils are expected to do independent learning from home. This may include using SAM LEARNING our revision programme, recording and watching BBC Bitesize Programs which are often broadcast in the early hours and reading text books which support each course.

Finally:

If parents have concerns over homework they should initially contact the teacher directly by note. If these concerns continue please ring the school and speak to your child's pastoral manager or house tutor.

Peter Westhorpe
Deputy Headteacher.