

## Homework Policy

**2025/26**

**AIM:** (final result we are aiming to achieve):

This policy aims to set out clear guidelines for Primary and Secondary teachers to ensure they set homework following the school's ethos and guidelines. It allows parents and students to know what to expect with regards to homework, and allows teachers to utilise homework to best benefit the students and their learning.

**RATIONALE:** (The reason for which this policy has been written)

Homework should always be set with the intention of extending the students' knowledge and/or skills and aiding progress in their studies. Homework should always be linked to the curriculum and classwork. Setting a homework task which is to 'finish off classwork' is not befitting of the EC ethos and therefore should not be done. This policy is therefore to ensure that students get the right amount of homework, appropriate to their age. While it is set with the clear objective to further a child's academic growth, while considering their well being.

**GUIDELINES:** (The principles/instructions/steps of the policy)

### Primary School

- Homework in Primary School is only set for the Year 6 age group and then only from term 2 of the school year.

Faculty	Frequency of HW	Minutes of HW to expect
Maths	Year 6 - once a week	1 hour per week
English	Year 6 - once a week	1 hour per week

- Homework is not set by FS to Year 5 classroom teachers in the Primary school, other than to learn the weekly spellings. However it is expected that students read the provided 'Readers' or library books at home each day.

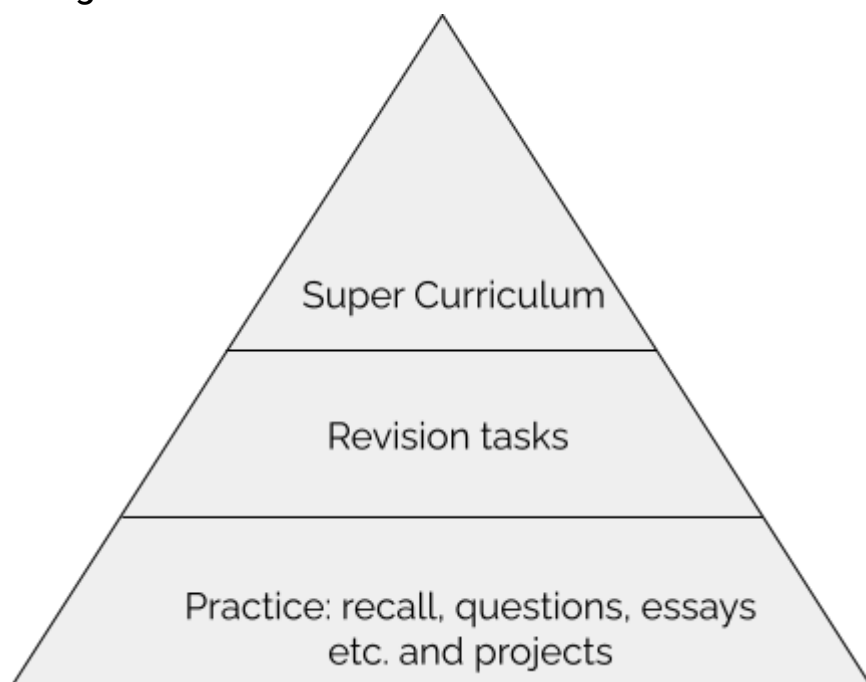
- In order to support parents with learning at home, Home Learning sites have been set up for all year groups to support the learning objectives being covered each term. This is an optional site and not compulsory.
- Learning objectives are shared on the weekly newsletter.
- Students in Years 1 to 6 can also access some of the following digital learning platforms depending on their year group: SPARX; Epic; TTRockstars; Spelling Shed; Education City. These platforms are personalised to each student's learning level.
- Arabic and Islamic teachers may set homework tasks when required.



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## Secondary School

### Setting homework



At KS5 a provision of homework needs to be offered that is optional. Wider reading/research beyond the curriculum

At KS4 and KS5 homework needs to be set as guided revision. E.g. making flash cards, quizzes, revision notes, vocab lists etc.

At all Key Stages homeworks need to be set to extend their learning.  
However, Year 7 follow the project based system in term 1.

## At Key Stage 5

Types of KS5 homeworks:

- **Super Curriculum homeworks:** These are optional for the student. But a provision of extension tasks that go beyond the curriculum need to be readily available for the students to do. This may be listening to podcasts, reading literature on the subject etc.
- **Revision tasks:** can not be set as simply 'revise'. The students need to be directed, given success criteria, given the tools to do it successfully and completion needs to be monitored. Suggestions revision homeworks would be to make flash cards, revision notes from textbook, research case studies, vocab lists etc.
- **Practice homeworks:** are more stereotypical homeworks, for example an essay question. These will then be taken in and marked in accordance with the marking policy.

Frequency of KS5 homeworks

- Homework should be set on average once every 3 lessons
- Homework should be on average set as one being revision based and the next being a practice task (exam questions etc.). Therefore, in accordance with the marking policy, you will mark every 6 lessons. Super Curriculum homework is not marked, but you should find the time to encourage and discuss it with those who did it,
- Homework must be recorded by the students, KS5 students can choose between the school planner or an alternative planning and prep resource
- Homework must never be due the next day.
- Homework is not required for core PE and the form time programme
- At The English College we do not have a set wholeschool homework timetable with regards to a set day for each subject . The simple reason for this is that we have found that it doesn't work. It is inflexible, it compels teachers to set homeworks for the sake of it and it can lead to an unevenly distributed workload.

## At Key Stage 4

Types of KS4 homeworks

- **Revision tasks:** can not be set as simply 'revise'. The students need to be directed, given success criteria, given the tools to do it successfully and completion needs to be monitored. Suggestions revision homeworks would be to make flash cards, revision notes from textbook, research case studies, vocab lists etc.
- **Practice homeworks:** are your more stereotypical homeworks, for example an essay question. These will then be taken in and marked in accordance with the marking policy.

### Frequency of KS4 homeworks

- Homework should be set on average once every 3 lessons
- Therefore, in accordance with the marking policy, you will mark every 6 lessons, so every other one is marked.
- Homework must be recorded by the students in their student planner, stating the date the work is due in for.
- Homework must **never** be due the next day.
- At The English College we do not have a set wholeschool homework timetable with regards to a set day for each subject . The simple reason for this is that we have found that it doesn't work. It is inflexible, it compels teachers to set homeworks for the sake of it and it can lead to an unevenly distributed workload.

### At Key Stage 3 (Year 8 and 9)

#### Types of KS3 (Y8&9) homeworks

- **Practice homeworks:** these are more stereotypical homeworks, for example some questions, a worksheet, an essay etc. These will then be taken in and marked in accordance with the marking policy.

#### Frequency of KS3 (Y8&9) homeworks

- Homework should be set on average once every 3 lessons
- In accordance with the marking policy, you will mark every 6 lessons, so every other piece (considering the marking also for the termly summative assessment)
- Homework must be recorded in the student planner by the students, stating the day/date it is due
- Homework must **never** be due the next day.
- Homework is not required for core PE and the form time programme

### At Key Stage 3 (Year 7)

#### Types of KS3 (Y7) homeworks

- **Term 1 .1 = Homework Project: Exploration**

All subjects will set subject specific homework that feeds into this project. The project will be designed by representatives from the different faculties and will be completed individually by the student. At the end of term 1.1. an expo will be held, allowing the students to showcase their learning. Due to the openness of the task, this will really give students the opportunity to stand out and show their ability.

English, Science, Maths and languages are permitted to set some additional homework e.g. Sparks, reading for English etc.

- **Term 1.2 - 3.2 = Practice homeworks:** In term 1.2, Year 7 will begin to receive your more stereotypical homeworks, for example an essay question. These will then be taken in and marked in accordance with the marking policy. The 'why' here is to create a gradual transition for the students as the move from Primary to Secondary School.

#### Frequency of KS3 (Y7) homeworks

- The project based homeworks will be set towards the start of the half term and allow the students to work at their own pace.
- When we return to setting the traditional 'practice homeworks', homework should be set on average once every 3 lessons
- In accordance with the marking policy, you will mark every 6 lessons, so every other one (considering the marking also from the termly assessment).
- Homework must be recorded in the student planner by the students, stating the day/date it is due
- Homework must **never** be due the next day.
- At The English College we do not have a set wholeschool homework timetable with regards to a set day for each subject . The simple reason for this is that we have found that it doesn't work. It is inflexible, it compels teachers to set homeworks for the sake of it and it can lead to an unevenly distributed workload.

### APPENDICES (Relevant links to other policies or documents)

Assessment recording and reporting policy

Year 7 Term 1 Homework Project

### Homework Principles at The English College

#### **The Why?**

Evidence shows that homework can advance a student's learning by up to 5 months in Secondary and 3 months in Primary.  
However, the key is quality not quantity. Homework at The English College is designed to deepen understanding by focusing on core knowledge retention. Allowing practice and retrieval of this knowledge to move knowledge into the long term memory of the students.

#### **Principle 1 - Knowledge is key**

Homework needs to focus on pre taught knowledge as retrieval and practice. By doing so, knowledge will become stronger, moving towards the long term memory of the student and therefore engage less of a student's intrinsic load, allowing greater knowledge and understanding to be developed.

#### **Priority 2 - Aims**

Homework must be clearly explained by all teachers, not just on what they need to do, but why they need to do it.  
The teaching in the lessons prior must ensure the work is accessible to all.  
All students must be aware of the importance of the homework and completion is routine.  
Homework is a great tool for responsive teaching, it will identify gaps in the students knowledge and skills to inform the teacher's planning.

#### **Priority 3 - Value**

Homework is not to be set for the sake of setting homework. Homework is not to be used as a punishment e.g. finishing off uncompleted work within the lesson time. Homework length must be reasonable, the impact of homework decreases as the length of the homework increases.  
The value of the homework will be clear due to how the practice impacts the next lesson and/or the feedback the students receive on their next steps.

#### **Priority 4 - High Expectations**

All homework must be set on google classroom with a clear deadline.  
Failure to complete homework or to complete it to an unsatisfactory standard must be followed up by the teacher with relative sanctions.  
Reward and praise are to be granted where applicable.  
Long term tracking by the teacher is required to inform reports.

#### **Priority 5 - Learning Skills**

Teachers must ensure students are taught the required skills to complete the homework e.g. independence, problem solving, inquiry etc.  
Learning skills should be mapped into the homeworks as part of the scheme of work

### **POLICY REVIEW HISTORY:**

This policy will be monitored, evaluated and reviewed by the Senior Leadership Team, approved by the Principal

#### **Historical Record**



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Revision No.	Date	Brief Description of Change	Approved by	Next Review:
0	5/7/22	New policy	WSLT	7/5/23
1	4/7/23	Review	WSLT	4/7/24
2	20.6.24	Updated	WSLT	06/25
3	06/25	Updated with minor changes	WSLT	08/26