

Homework Policy

At St George we ASPIRE to become all that God has created us to be.

Homework is an essential part of the learning process. St George has a college homework policy, which outlines our expectations of homework and its contribution to progress and attainment across all subjects at KS3 and KS4. This is supported by departmental homework policies for individual subjects. We look for parental support in helping to make sure homework and assignments are completed when required in addition to the 30mins to 1 hour of reading or revision per week, which is mandatory for all pupils.

Homework is important because it:

- helps to consolidate and extend what is learnt in the classroom
- develops individual learning responsibility
- develops research and revision skills
- prepares students for GCSE study
- helps teachers to assess students' learning

Frequency

At both **KS3 (Years 7&8)** and **KS4 (Years 9-11)**, each subject should be setting homework at least twice a half-term and to a maximum of once a week. Tasks will vary according to subject and year group. Homework must be recorded in students' planners.

Homework marking

Work is marked in line with department marking policies and the college Feedback and Assessment Policy, contributing towards the assessment of students' individual progress and attainment across all subjects. Homework marking will be prefaced with HW before the mark, grade or comment (for example: HW5 or HW 10/10). Attitude grades are awarded for effort in homework in each subject towards the end of each term.

Homework support and intervention

Up to two sessions per week of Study/ Homework Club will be provided in our Library and/or Trinity. These sessions are open to all students, offering the opportunity to work independently and collaboratively with staff and peers where appropriate, and to make use of resources including computers. Attendance at these sessions will be highly recommended for students who are failing to complete homework or are falling behind with targets for progress and/or attainment. Sessions are supervised by staff.

Sanction and reward

Appropriate sanctions are used, dependent upon circumstances, by the subject teacher followed by the Head of Department and/or Progress Leader if appropriate. Class teachers and Heads of Department reward students for quality and effort of homework as they see fit and in contribution to end-of-term Reward Assemblies.

Reading

In addition to subject homework, all pupils are expected to complete a minimum of 30mins to 1 hour of reading per week in KS3 and a minimum of 30mins to 1 hour independent reading or revision in KS4. Reading and revision is monitored by tutors and the college's Literacy Co-ordinator and is followed by prizes or sanctions as appropriate.

Homework responsibilities

Students'

- Students should always record their homework in their Planner
- Students should keep deadlines and respect that those deadlines have been set
- If students are absent, they are expected to find out what homework has been set and catch up on it. **Being away on the day it is set or handed in is not an excuse for not doing it**
- Students should aim to do their best and take pride in their work
- Students should aim to complete homework independently, however they are encouraged to seek help from staff, peer mentors or parents/carers/ other family members if in need

School's

- The subject teacher is responsible for setting challenging homework that is appropriate for the age and stage of their students, and for marking it in line with department and school Feedback and Assessment policies. S/he should check that students are recording details of homework set in their Planners
- Tutors should check that homework is recorded as part of their weekly checks of students' Planners
- Homework should be set to ensure that there is more than one night in which to do it. This allows students to plan their time, participate in out-of-school activities if they wish and complete their homework
- Heads of Department and their Line Manager are responsible for ensuring that all teachers are setting challenging homework that is appropriate for the age and stage of the students, and that it is being marked in accordance with department and college Homework policies and Feedback and Assessment policies

Parents'/ Carers'

- Parents/ carers should support students with their homework but accept that their role will become less involved as students become more responsible and independent
- Parents/ carers should try and provide a reasonable place where students can work or encourage them to make use of the school's facilities, including Homework Club
- Parents/ carers should check that homework is recorded into their child's Planner and encourage them to meet homework deadlines
- Parents/ carers should make it clear that they value homework and support the school with helping students to progress

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Date of next review: October 2019

The Policy Working Group agreed this policy on 5th October 2018.