



# Homework Policy

## 2019/2020

**Approved by:** PWG **Date:** 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019

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**Lead:** Kathryn Cecil

**Signed:**

# Homework Policy

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

## 1. INTRODUCTION

*“An education in the fullness of humanity should be the defining feature of Catholic schools.” Pope Francis*

1.1 St George Catholic College is in the Trusteeship of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth and maintained by Southampton City Council Local Authority. Our school leaders and governors are entrusted by the Bishop with the ministry of school leadership and will always act in recognition of the love of Christ for all members of our college community and one another.

1.2 We share a vocation for the common good in our world and we are committed to working together as a family. All of our policies and procedures are formed to enable all members of our St George family to be safe and cherished, feel happy and fulfilled and be treated fairly in a positive environment founded on mutual respect and shared values. This policy is part of the foundation that enables everyone to **aspire to be all that God has created us to be.**

## 2. Homework

2.1 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.

2.2 Homework is important because it:

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

## 3. Frequency

3.1 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.

## 4. Homework marking

4.1 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.

## 5. Homework support and intervention

5.1 Up to four sessions per week of after-school 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.

## 6. Sanction and reward

6.1 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.

## 7. Reading

7.1 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.

## 8. Homework responsibilities

### 8.1 Students'

- i. Students should always record their homework in their Planner
- ii. Students should keep deadlines and respect that those deadlines have been set
- iii. 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**
- iv. Students should aim to do their best and take pride in their work
- v. 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

### 8.2 School's

- i. 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
- ii. Tutors should check that homework is recorded as part of their weekly checks of students' Planners
- iii. 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
- iv. 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

### 8.3 Parents'/ Carers'

- i. Parents/ carers should support students with their homework but accept that their role will become less involved as students become more responsible and independent

- ii. 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
- iii. Parents/ carers should check that homework is recorded into their child's Planner and encourage them to meet homework deadlines
- iv. Parents/ carers should make it clear that they value homework and support the school with helping students to progress

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