



HOMEWORK POLICY

POLICY AIMS:

The aim of setting students homework is to improve the learning of all students through the experience of self-study, using initiative and building up resilience. Ossett Academy will provide opportunities to:

- Learn independently of the teacher;
- Practise skills learnt in the classroom;
- Complete learning started in the classroom;
- Experience meeting of deadlines in preparation for Post 16 study and lifelong skills;
- Re visit past learning to consolidate knowledge in preparing for examinations

Staff expectations in supporting success:

We expect staff to set regular homework across the curriculum to help students develop the skills needed for independent learning and so become outstanding lifelong learners.

From the Teacher Standards:

“Teachers will plan and teach well-structured lessons which:

- **Promote a love of learning and children’s intellectual curiosity**
 - **Set homework and plan other out-of-class activities to consolidate and extend the knowledge and understanding that pupils have acquired”**
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- Homework must have a clear purpose.
 - Homework should be set during, rather than at the end of, the lesson.
 - Homework, including revision, must be recorded accurately in planners (so that it is clearly visible to all stakeholders) with clear deadlines for completion in order for parents/carers to support the Academy in this.
 - It is necessary to display homework on the board and, for some learners, provide tasks pre-printed. Sufficient time must be allowed for this to be recorded and explained, offering support where necessary.
 - Where students require resources to complete homework, these should be issued on paper in the lesson.
 - Submission of homework should be tracked, with grades if appropriate, in your mark book/assessment log. There is no set way to do this – teachers record their data in their own way.

Expectations for marking of homework

Homework tasks should be marked and assessed as appropriate to the task and in line with the Academy Marking Policy.

Expectations for Rewards and Sanctions

- Staff should praise students for their homework as appropriate, e.g. through verbal praise, star stamps or SLT praise.
- Where homework is not completed this should be recorded in a student's planner to allow Academy staff and parents/carers to monitor the completion rates for homework.
- Staff may use appropriate sanctions for students who fail to complete homework, such as keeping a student in at break to complete the work. Alternatively, staff may choose to keep students after school. This should be arranged with parents/carers via a note in the planner and a phone call home.
- Where students persistently fail to complete homework on a regular basis (at least three times in a half term) then additional parental contact should be made beyond a planner note and students may be asked to attend a standards detention as necessary to complete the homework.

Note: It is expected that parents/carers will assist their child by providing, where possible, a quiet learning environment at home.

Guidance for staff around the setting of homework tasks

Our expectation is that a variety of tasks are set for homework. Tasks should be carefully differentiated to support the success of all students.

When deciding what tasks to set consider these questions:

- Does the task have a clear purpose and rationale?
- Can the student successfully complete the homework without assistance?
- How much time should it take for a student to complete the homework?

Appropriate tasks to set are:

- Research a future lesson topic and produce a resource about the topic;
- Past exam questions;
- Stretch activities based on the lesson just completed;
- A written exercise such as a comprehension task, or writing an essay on a topic;
- An extended project may be set across a half term or similar time scale, but these should be broken down into separate tasks with clear deadlines for each task so that work is set and submitted in line with the timetable;
- Revision for a test may be set where there is a clear task that students complete.

Inappropriate tasks to set are:

- A task which is solely a reading task;
- Revise for a test next lesson;
- Bringing in ingredients or materials for a practical lesson;
- Watching a video;
- Finishing off work which should have been completed in the lesson;

At Key Stage 3 – Years 7 and 8

- Tasks should be set that take approximately 30 minutes to complete. Tasks are to be set on a weekly/two weekly basis. Maths, English and Science are to be set on a weekly basis. Non-core subjects are to be set in alternate weeks to reflect the

proportion of lessons on the timetable. This should ensure students are set approximately 4 hours of homework per week across all subjects.

At Key Stage 4/5 - Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13

It is expected that students get homework each week for all of their subjects and that tasks set take approximately 60 minutes to complete.

Homework tasks are designed to ensure that students are fully prepared to sit their examinations at the end of the Key Stage.

We recommend 60+ minutes (minimum) independent reading per week for all of our students.

All homework tasks will be monitored and significant pieces of work marked with appropriate comments and targets for improvement.

Policy Review and Development

This policy will be reviewed annually by SLT.

Policy Monitoring and Evaluation

It is the responsibility of CTLs to ensure that the academy Homework Policy is adhered to by the staff teaching in their areas. SLT members will monitor the quality of homework tasks through the quality assurance mechanisms in place.