

## Home Learning Policy

**Our view of the role of home learning is closely linked with our school ethos and values.**

The completion of regular home learning supports our belief in **Education for Life** and the notion that learning is a continual process which doesn't just take place in school. The school's approach to home learning also fits in with our school values. For example, by providing opportunities for students to demonstrate their creativity beyond the confines of the classroom as well as expecting that students will develop their resilience as they complete work that makes greater demands of them over time as they move through the school.

**At Dorothy Stringer we believe that it is important for students to develop their skills of independent work and study.** Therefore, we set home learning regularly as part of our approach to expanding students' knowledge and skills. Home learning is designed to support and extend the work students do in their lessons at school. A range of activities may be set for home learning including different forms of research, revision and practice assessment questions.

**We hope that parents and carers will often be involved in their child's home learning.**

Sometimes home learning activities will directly involve parents and carers, for example in finding out about life experiences and different views on key topics. However, most of the time it is helpful for parents to check with their child and ask about home learning. Reading through drafts and finished work together can be helpful in providing support and encouragement with home learning and ensuring that it represents a student's best work.

**In order for home learning to be a productive and positive aspect of a student's work it is important that they establish routines to ensure activities are completed to the highest standard.** It is helpful for students to have regular times in the week when they complete home learning and for this to be a shared expectation at home. By having a routine students can ensure that homework is spread out over the two-week cycle so that they don't end up having to complete multiple home learning tasks in one evening.

### How often will home learning be set?

<b>Key Stage 3</b>	<b>Two-week cycle</b>		
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Year 7</b>	<b>Year 8</b>	<b>Year 9</b>
English	2 X 30 minutes	2 X 30 minutes	2 X 30 minutes
Maths	2 X 30 minutes	2 X 30 minutes	2 X 30 minutes
Science	2 X 30 minutes	2 X 30 minutes	2 X 30 minutes
PSHE	One project during the year		
All other subjects except Drama, PE, computer science and music	1 X 30 minutes	1 X 30 minutes	1 X 30 minutes

Total = 2-3 hours home learning per week

*There are extra-curricular activities in school available related to drama, music and PE as well as other areas of school life. We hope that students will get involved in a range of these activities.*

**Notes:**

- New Year 7 students: for the first two weeks in September, home learning will only be set by English, Maths and Science. After this initial period the full homework cycle for all subjects will begin.
- At KS3 no home learning should be set to be completed over the holiday period. Reasonable deadlines should always be given for home learning and no home learning should ever be set for the next day.
- Subjects may set some extended home learning tasks during the year which will be undertaken over a longer set period of time. These tasks will be set on the SLG along with the details of final deadlines and any interim deadlines that students need to meet.

<b>Key stage 4</b>	<b>Two-week cycle</b>	
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Year 10</b>	<b>Year 11</b>
English	2 X 45 minutes	2 X 45 minutes
Maths	2 X 45 minutes	2 X 45 minutes
Science	2 X 45 minutes	2 X 45 minutes
Options subjects	2 X 45 minutes	2 X 45 minutes

Total = 4-5 hours home learning per week

**Notes:**

- At Key Stage 4 it may be necessary for home learning activities to be set over holiday times, especially nearer to exam season.
- There will be times when GCSE students will be expected to exceed the normal allocation of home learning, for example when NEA deadlines and exams are approaching.

**We understand that sometimes things happen that make it difficult to complete home learning on time.** It is important that students keep their teachers informed of any issues that may delay the handing in of home learning so that an extended deadline can be agreed. It is important that asking for an extended deadline is something that happens occasionally and doesn't become the norm.