

Caedmon College Whitby



Homework Policy

College Governance Status

This policy will be reviewed every three years.

Review dates	By Whom	Approval date
October 2020	Staff and Governors	19 November 2020
October 2023		

Signed by the Chair of Governors:

Pen Cruz

WHY IS HOMEWORK IMPORTANT?

Homework is valuable for the following reasons:

- It helps students to make more rapid progress in learning
- It allows students the opportunity to develop the practice of working independently, this method of working is vital in the later stages of secondary education and beyond
- It helps students develop skills learned in the classroom
- It involves parents and others in the students' work for their mutual benefit
- It can provide opportunities for long term research and other work that benefits from being developed over a longer period of time
- It gives students valuable experience of working to deadlines and forms a link with various methods of study crucial to success at secondary school.

THE NATURE OF HOMEWORK

At Key Stage Three, we have a system whereby there are two types of homework:

Longer homework tasks: These last over a period of time between two weeks up to a maximum of four weeks. Longer homework may be published on the College's virtual learning environment (VLE), which is accessible from the College website. Homework will also be issued to students in a written format.

Shorter homework tasks: These will be set each week in Mathematics, Science, English (Literacy), ICT and MFL, and will usually last no more than 15 minutes. These tasks may be written work, but may also be preparation exercises, revision, research or reading. Occasionally they will be used to complete class work, although this will be rare.

KEY STAGE 3 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HOMEWORK

Homework Subjects	Long/Short Homework
English	In years 7-9, students are expected to read widely (fiction and non-fiction). Additionally, they will get research tasks and/or be asked to complete classwork.
Mathematics	They get a 10 key skills homework once a fortnight. All homework are available on cwilsonmaths.wordpress.com with hints available to answer each question. During exam periods these are replaced with fortnightly checks on revision.
Science	Students will be issued A5 Independent study booklets for each topic. A topic is approximately 4 weeks in duration. Some parts of this booklet will be set to complete at home, some parts will be completed in lessons. After three topics there will be an assessment, and pupils will be given directed revision to complete at home via the google classroom.
Art	Three to four short tasks per half term to consolidate learning. Tasks may include spellings, learning art terms and written work.
Design & Technology	Homework or independent study and revision is set regularly in all areas of the Design Technology curriculum. Homework is set in DT to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage independent learning and study, including revision for assessments• Review and consolidate recent learning• Extend and challenge previous learning• Prepare for the next stage of learning, e.g. research or investigate• Ensure spelling and understanding of subject specific words and key terms• Allow parents to be involved in their child's learning Year 7 and 8 students will be issued homework task once a fortnight and on average should take 20 minutes to complete tasks. Year 9 students will be issued

	homework once a fortnight and on average should spend 30 minutes to complete tasks. Homework is generally set on Google Classroom and occasionally will be paper based. Students who do not have access to Google Classroom at home or need support are welcome to use the IT room in the department before school from 8.30am, any break time, lunch time or after college.
Drama	Independent study is set to support classwork: this usually takes the form of research tasks, completing work started in class and on occasion learning lines. It not set every week, but is set when it is useful to prepare for and support classwork. Year 9: Students are issued with an independent study booklet at the beginning of the course. Tasks are set to support classwork and learning. This may include writing up notes from lessons, learning lines and rehearsal.
Geography	A combination of long (four-week) and short, homework tasks (set every two weeks) as appropriate to the curriculum. A short homework is set every two weeks.
History	Homework will be a mix of short homeworks that could be revising for a test or completing a piece of online work, learning a lost of key words or researching a topic prior to the lesson. This is set every two weeks.
ICT	Two tasks set per half term. The homework is located on Google Classroom with submission dates indicated. Students complete the tasks electronically or on paper if appropriate. IT room M1 is available at break, lunchtime and after school if students do not have a computer or internet access at home.
Religious Studies	A combination of long (four-week) and short, homework tasks (set every two weeks) as appropriate to the curriculum.
MFL	Online vocabulary practice at least 30 mins per week – Memrise, Duolingo, Quizlet. Learning homeworks as required. Homework will be set through Google Classroom. Check daily for updates.
Music	Students are set one homework project each half term. Every project involves listening to music and describing it. Students to develop their knowledge and understanding of key musical terms and devices: 'listening and appraising skills'. A list of key words is given to all students at the start of KS3 and is also on google classroom.

KEY STAGE 4

English

Homework will not be set for the following day unless it is a short piece of research and has been discussed with students prior to the homework being set. Homework will not always be written – teachers will aim to incorporate a range of ideas into their planning.

Mathematics

Students are set homework via booklets, which can be purchased at a cost of £2 per year through the main office, or accessed electronically for free via google classroom (code: mclsb8). The homework will be set weekly (typically one sheet out of the booklet) or fortnightly (typically two sheets) as per the teacher's discretion, and students will be expected to show working out and have their own calculator.

In year 11 the homework is more flexible as students will be set exam practice questions and past papers as well as tasks from the homework booklets. All students are invited to attend the Tuesday night sessions that run till 4:30pm to get assistance with their homework.

Science

For all teaching groups in Years 9, 10 and 11 students will be issued A5 Independent study booklets for each topic. Topic lengths are variable. Most of this booklet will be assigned for students to complete at home. Once per term, students will complete assessments in science, they will be given directed revision to complete at home via the google classroom. We strongly advise students purchase a revision guide from the department office (at cost price) as this will help with independent study and exam and assessment preparation.

Art

Y10. Approximately 5 tasks per half term depending on term length.

Y11 Weekly tasks but some may roll over two weeks.

Often, this will be to complete work that has been started in class or to create supporting work (for example, to research an artist or process, take photographs or create a study in a different media or technique).

DT Product Design, Engineering and Hospitality & Catering

Year 10 and 11 students are issued homework weekly and are expected to spend a minimum of 45 minutes to complete tasks. In year 11, homework tasks will focus on exam preparation to include key terms, topics and concepts as well as completing practice questions and past papers.

Homework is often set on Google Classroom or is paper based when appropriate. Students who do not have access to Google Classroom at home or need support are welcome to use the IT room (T1) in the department before school from 8.30am, any break time, lunch time or after college.

Drama

Students are often asked to research material, learn lines and attend extra rehearsals as part of their independent study for drama. This will also include completion of coursework and written work throughout the year. Tasks are set on google classroom and in some instances student will be set a specific written task to support classwork/learning. We set this work as and when necessary.

Electronics

At present, GCSE Electronics students in Year 10 and 11 can expect at least one homework every two weeks, which should take up to one hour to complete. This will often take the form of structured questions and exam style questions from the WJEC GCSE Electronics resources. When coursework is being completed, students are expected to write up their report in draft form as a continuous process. Progress with this will be monitored frequently. At other times in the year, such as near exams or tests, homework will take the form of revision and practice questions and exam papers.

Geography

Students will be given tasks which either consolidate what has been done in class or extension work, looking into case studies. In Year 11, following the trial exam, students will be given focused tasks based on their performance.

Health and Social Care

All Key Stage 4 students will log their homework in the back of their class book and will need to complete a table of this in their planner.

History

Tasks are ongoing revision and memory development through the use of a revision and homework booklet. These are short and structured activities that could be creating revision resources or practicing assessment/exam skills that are weekly activities. These will be checked regularly to ensure completion and offer feedback. In addition, there may be pre-reading ahead of starting a new topic. All resources are available via google classroom.

ICT

One homework task per week. Each year group has their own homework booklet which is located on Google Classroom. IT room M1 is available at break, lunchtime and after school if students do not have a computer or internet access at home.

Yr 11 homework due every Thursday

Yr 10 homework due every Tuesday

Year 9 homework due every Thursday

MFL

Online vocabulary practice at least 1 hour per week – Memrise, Duolingo, Quizlet.

Learning homeworks as required. Preparation for assessments as required.

Homework will be set through Google Classroom. Check daily for updates.

Music

Students continue to complete listening and appraising homework projects, building on their skills developed and key musical terms and devices learnt at KS3. Students must attend their instrumental or vocal lesson each week and are expected to practice five times a week. Students are strongly

encouraged to get involved in extra-curricular musical activities as this really enhances their skills in all areas of their courses.

RS

Students will receive a revision task for a mid or end of unit test, in the following lesson, approximately every four weeks (after approximately seven lessons). Reading and written tasks will be set as required by the teacher for the following lesson. Additional homework will be set including learning key words and researching issues that are being studied.

Sports Studies

GCSE PE (Sports Studies)

All students will be issued with homework once a week. This could be either a stand-alone task or working on their ongoing assignments.

BTEC Sports Award L1/2

Students will not always be issued with homework on a weekly basis - there will however be times where homework will be issued in order to reinforce concepts studied in class and especially when revising in preparation for the Unit 1 external test.

Vocational Courses

A large part of these courses involves ongoing coursework. All students will have written work that they have to do as part of this coursework and these will be assessed. Students will have work towards these that they must complete at home.

Whitby Sixth Form

Students at Whitby Sixth Form will be expected to study outside of lessons. Independent studies are an important aspect of all Sixth Form courses. This additional study is essential if students are to achieve or exceed their target grade. Failure to work outside of lessons is a breach of a students' learner agreement and will disadvantage them in terms of their final grade. Independent study is set in order to:

- Reinforce and consolidate work covered in lessons
- Encourage independent and reflective learning
- Develop a deeper knowledge and understanding
- Prepare students for future lessons or assessments
- Promote an interest and joy in learning
- Enable teachers in to make a judgement about a student's progress and level of attainment

Independent studies should be varied in terms of tasks and relevant and rewarding for students. In vocational courses homework may constitute on-going work on an assignment or assignments.

Deadlines for all independent study should be manageable for students. Some independent study work will be assessed by tutors, often using exam board criteria and assessment objectives.

Whitby Sixth form recommends that for all level 3 subjects, students should study for a minimum of four hours per week per subject outside of lessons.

Level 2 subjects students should study for a minimum of three hours per week per subject outside of lessons.

HOW DOES THE COLLEGE HELP STUDENTS TO ORGANISE THEIR HOMEWORK?

Each student is given a student planner at the beginning of the year. Students should use these to record their homework for each subject as a reminder of the task and its deadline date.

Staff aim to ensure that their instructions concerning homework are clear to everyone in the class, and that all students have plenty of time to copy down what is expected. Long homework tasks will be published on the College's VLE (accessible from the College website). Short homework tasks should be written in the planners each week. As far as is practicable, homework will involve independent tasks and will NOT be simply finishing off class work tasks in the main, as this approach can increase the workload of many students.

It is our aim to mark or respond to homework within two weeks, in a way that is helpful to students, including comments which show students how their work could be improved.

HOW CAN PARENTS OR GUARDIANS HELP WITH HOMEWORK?

Parents and carers should:

- check that homework details are written in, clearly and regularly, in their son/daughter's planner - there is space there for a regular signature
- help their son/daughter to organise their time to best advantage so that things are not all left to the last minute or forgotten
- try to make sure that there are suitable working conditions at home
- take a positive and active interest in their child's work at home.

Parents and carers are encouraged to let staff know if there are problems with homework. Perhaps a child seems to be doing too much, or not enough, or is finding it too easy or too difficult. In these cases, contact with the College is essential so that we can look into the matter.

FAILURE TO HAND IN HOMEWORK

We expect completed homework to be submitted on time. This gives students valuable experience of working to deadlines and facilitates staff with their marking schedules. If homework is not handed in, appropriate action will be taken. Any homework problem may be recorded by staff to provide evidence for a specific or general problem which may emerge at a later date. It may be recorded on the electronic tracker and will be reflected in the homework effort grade.

THE ROLE OF THE TUTOR

- To check the planners each week (Tuesday)
- To reward students who are using their planners effectively
- To closely monitor students who are not using their planners effectively.

THE ROLE FOR THE SUBJECT TEACHER

- To follow the homework policy
- To mark and record homework separately to emphasise its importance
- To reward students for effective homework and put support in place for students who do not complete homework effectively.

THE ROLE FOR THE STRATEGIC TEAM

- Strategic Team leaders will monitor the effectiveness of homework alongside Heads of Department
- Strategic Team leaders will make sure that parents are informed of the College's policy
- Strategic Team leaders will support the work of Tutors through their own checking of planners and the homework exercises completed by students.

A ROLE FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

- Parents can expect to be kept informed of the Homework Policy
- Parents will be expected to support "homework time" by providing a suitable place at home for homework to be completed
- Students must make every effort to complete tasks on time, to the best of their ability.