

Homework Policy



Policy Title	Homework Policy
Policy Created / Amended	September 2022
Policy Ratified	
Policy Review Date	September 2024
Summary of changes	Removed references to planners and replaced with GO4Schools, formatting

1 Rationale

At Sybil Andrews Academy we believe that

- Homework is an integral part of learning at Sybil Andrews Academy.
- Homework is a powerful learning tool for securing a student's knowledge in a specific subject area, as well as encouraging independent practice and self-regulation.
- Homework is an important aspect of a student's learning journey, linked to the curriculum as the progression model.
- It is a vital tool in to consolidate the learning that has taken place in class, through repetitive practice.
- We believe that learning outside the classroom is the right way to extend, deepen and widen understanding of the curriculum and thus ensure that every student can become a successful learner as they journey through Sybil Andrews Academy from year 7 to 11.
- Homework should be tailored to suit all students, regardless of background, socio- economic status, educational need or any other additional learning need. Therefore, enabling full access to the benefits of learning outside the classroom.

2 Aims

- To promote effective and efficient use of homework across all years.
- To improve student learning through enhancing the quality of homework set linked to repetitive low stakes practice, the 'SAA Lesson' format, Rosenshine's Principles of Instruction and current teaching and learning initiatives within the academy.
- To engage parents and carers in the learning process.

3 Definition of homework

Homework refers to any learning task which a student is asked to do outside the classroom. It should be scaffolded and/ or modelled for student ability.

Examples may include:

- The use of knowledge organisers
- Tier 2 and Tier 3 vocabulary
- Blended learning
- Completion of past examination questions
- Use of online platforms (Educake, Microsoft Forms, GCSE Pod etc)
- Use of Microsoft Teams (including feedback)

4 Effective homework at Sybil Andrews Academy

To be effective: homework needs to follow the curriculum, link to the aims set out above and be accessible for all students.

Effective homework:

- Encourages students to develop the core knowledge, core skills, confidence and motivation needed for independent practice and self-regulation.
- Links to class-based learning over-time
- Engages parents and carers in students' learning and informs them about the curriculum journey

5 Quantity of homework to be set

- Students at KS3 will receive approximately 10% of curriculum time, per subject, per fortnight linked to low stakes quizzing, repetitive practice and extension opportunities
- Students at KS4 will receive approximately 20% of curriculum time, per subject, per fortnight linked to low stakes quizzing, repetitive practice, extension opportunities and GCSE specification requirements (exams/ coursework) each week.

**in all instances, homework will be additional to any intervention sessions attended*

Subject	KS3 – 10% All times are in minutes	KS4 – 20% All times are in minutes
English	40	1h 40
Maths	40	1h 40
Science	40	1h 40
Computer Science	15	60
MFL	30	60
Asdan	n/a	60
Geography	20	60
History	20	60
RPE	15	Option – 60, Core – 30
Art	15	60
Design Technology	15	60
Food	10	60
Drama	15	60
Music	15	60
Physical Education	30	30
VCert PE	n/a	60
PSHE	10	20
Total over 2 weeks	5.5 hours	10 hours

6 Leadership and management of homework

It is the role of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to:

- Support the development, implementation of homework across the school through their link departments
- Monitor the setting, feedback and effectiveness of homework in their link departments
- Set the procedure to be followed by all staff for students not completing homework It is the role

of the Head of Department to ensure that:

- Their department is active in discussions on the role of homework across the school and the curriculum and units of learning include homework which links to the more holistic goals of the curriculum in the specific subject area
- The promotion, setting and completion of homework is included in the regular cycle of monitoring of teaching and learning and departmental self-review
- Teachers within their department are provided with and have access to suitable homework materials and tasks
- Homework forms part of the cyclical low stakes quizzing, end of unit milestone(s) and end of year milestone(s)

- Monitor the regular setting of homework to ensure the department conforms to this policy

Role of Teaching Staff - all teachers are asked to ensure that:

- Where necessary, all homework is marked and assessed and returned within a reasonable time, normally one cycle of the timetable or sooner in the case of short, frequently set tasks
- Where necessary, longer homework tasks or extended GCSE work are staged to allow interim feedback and pointers for improvement
- Homework is recorded on Go4Schools each time it is set
- No student is disadvantaged in the use of ICT at home
- The homework set extends learning and skill development
- Homework is scaffolded/ modelled to match the learning opportunities in class
- Students understand the nature and purpose of the homework set
- Good homework is acknowledged and rewarded by the use of merits on Go4Schools in the same way as good practice in lessons
- All non-completion of homework is recorded on Go4Schools and followed up through school procedures

Role of Tutor - all tutors are asked to:

- Encourage students to see homework as an integral part of their learning journey
- Where necessary, monitor the recording of homework in Go4Schools
- Help students plan time effectively so that homework is completed on time and to a high standard
- Alert Head of Year to lack of recorded homework
- Liaise with parents/carers for students in their form regularly missing homework

Role of Student

Homework is an integral part of learning - students are expected to take this on board and to:

- Monitor homework set on Go4Schools
- Set up a schedule for completion of homework
- Complete the homework task to as high a standard as possible by the date given
- Expect to be praised for a piece of outstanding homework in the same way as they would for a good piece of class work or coursework
- Expect homework to deepen their knowledge of a particular subject aspect
- Know that their teachers will impose a sanction if they do not complete their homework
- Keep parents/carers informed about the homework set, involving them whenever possible but not allowing them to do the work
- Expect their homework to be marked and returned within a reasonable time period

Any concerns should be discussed with Tutors.

Role of Parents/Carers

Learning is a partnership between home and school. All parents/carers are encouraged to:

- Show regular interest in their child's work by checking Go4Schools as often as possible (at least once a week) and talking to their child about the work set and its relationship to what is being studied in class

- Provide a quiet, private space for study at home. Students need space for reflective learning and concentration
- Encourage their child to use homework clubs and the Library at school if this is not possible
- Help their child plan time effectively so that all homework is completed and handed in for feedback by the given date
- Work with their child by encouraging research, opportunities for learning and access to relevant and safe ICT sites
- Read through books and files to understand the nature and quality of work and to acknowledge where and how their child has made progress
- Let their child's Tutor know of any concerns about the homework being set, through a note in their planner
- Indicate when a child has spent the allotted amount of time on the homework but has been unable to complete the task.

7 Improvements in effectiveness of homework at Sybil Andrews Academy

Key pointers for success:

- Decrease in number of students recorded on Go4Schools for incomplete or poor homework
- Ensure that homework forms a part of the repetitive practice cycle, linked to cyclical low stakes quizzing and the curriculum

8 Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of this policy shall be conducted by the Leadership Team and reported to Governors to inform review