

## Merchant Taylors' Schools, Crosby

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### Homework Policy and Procedure

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<b>Policy Owner</b>	<b>Assistant Head (Academic)</b>
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Related Policies:	Anti-Bullying Policy EVC Policy Children Missing from School Policy Health and Safety Policy KCSIE 2024
Regulatory Body (if applicable)	Department for Education Independent Schools Inspectorate
Relevant legislation/guidelines	Independent Schools Standards Regulations 2014 (as amended)

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## **1 Aim:**

### **The Purpose of Homework**

Homework is an important feature of an academic education which evidence demonstrates has a positive impact on learning, especially at secondary level. It allows pupils the room to develop their own ideas as well as acting as a vehicle to consolidate learning which takes place in the classroom. Homework plays an integral role in pupils' preparation for subsequent lessons. Research or other preparatory tasks will support pupils in their learning and the development of understanding.

Homework is thus a vital strand in the school's mission to develop curiosity and independence in our pupils. The school envisages pupils gradually taking on more homework as they progress; this mirrors the intent that pupils should also take on more of the responsibility for their own learning as they become older.

## **2 Homework Arrangements in Stanfield [Prep School]**

We hold high expectations for the quality and presentation of pupils' work in these tasks, just as we do for classroom-based activities. Pupils are encouraged to engage in regular home learning. The amount of time devoted to homework increases with the pupil's age, and tasks are designed to be varied, structured, and clearly explained to the pupils. Homework assignments may be differentiated to ensure they provide an appropriate level of challenge for each pupil. Pupils should complete their homework in a quiet, well-equipped space. It is expected that all pupils will read at home and share books with their parents.

Parents will be informed about homework expectations during a curriculum meeting, and a homework schedule will be made available on iSAMS at the start of each academic year. Homework should be a rewarding and manageable component of teaching and learning for everyone involved. We encourage parents to inform the school if any issues with homework arise.

### **2.1 Setting, Recording, and Checking of Homework**

Homework for infants is placed in their homework folder at the end of the day. Junior homework is set on ISAMS. Pupils are responsible for checking ISAMS for homework. Further practice in basic skills (e.g. handwriting) may be set at the discretion of the class teacher.

Homework is not set for children to complete when taken out of School during term time, and we do not as a rule set homework in the holidays.

## 2.2 Stanfield Homework Allocation

Year Group	Time Allocation	Curriculum Area
Reception	10 mins, 3 x weekly	Reading Weekend Diary Thinking Thursday
Year 1	10 – 15 mins each night	Reading English Spelling (Spring and Summer Term) Mathematics
Year 2	10 – 15 mins each night 30 mins at the weekend	Reading English Spelling Mathematics
Year 3	30 mins each night	Reading English Spelling Mathematics Other subjects
Year 4	30 mins each night	Reading English Spelling Mathematics Other subjects
Year 5	45 mins each night	Reading English Spelling Mathematics Other subjects
Year 6	45 mins each night	Reading English Spelling Mathematics Other subjects

Other subject will include independent research project work and may also include other subjects.

Homework will not be set on 'Wellbeing Wednesday' when we recommend that pupils use this time to engage in an activity to support wellbeing, e.g. Co-curricular club, an activity with family, etc.

### **3 Homework Arrangements in MTS [Senior School]**

Homework tasks set must be meaningful; they should support pupils' learning in a consolidatory, reinforcing, or preparatory manner. Tasks that might reasonably be set include:

- Completion of questions or problems.
- Preparation of a presentation, debate or oracy piece.
- An extended piece of research.
- Creation of digital media (e.g. screen video) to demonstrate learning.
- Sections of a coursework task.
- Reading of a set text.
- Note-taking – where explicit guidance on content and noting technique has been given.
- Revision for written assessments/internal examinations.
- Revision of key terms or vocabulary.

#### **3.1 Setting, Recording and Checking of Homework**

Teachers set homework in line with the Homework Timetables for pupils in Year 7 to Year 11.

All homework tasks will be set by the class teacher on Teams as an assignment. Pupils will thus automatically have a record of all work to be completed. Assignments on Teams will have the due date for work. Pupils must follow the instructions in the assignment to complete the set work and submit either electronically through Teams, or by hand to the teacher (as instructed).

Most homework on the Homework Timetables is set on the same day as a lesson in the respective subject. Sometimes, however, a pupil will have homework on a non-lesson day. Teachers will explain homework tasks in the lesson and set the homework on Teams, using the appropriate start date for the task to reflect the homework timetable. Some homework is set on non-lesson days so ensure a balanced homework timetable, with no more than three homework tasks on any single evening.

Parents can use the Haldor app to see what homework has been set for their child.

#### **3.2 Homework Duration**

All pupils need to develop and maintain a regular habit of study at home. The amount of time allocated to each subject for homework in Years 7 to 11 is intended to be a guide: the daily figures should be considered a maximum.

### 3.3 Lower School [Years 7-9]

Pupils should be doing between 1 and 1 ½ hours of academic work at home each day, including weekends.

Year Group	Allocation
7	3 x 20-minute homework's per evening
8	3 x 25-minute homework's per evening
9	3 x 30-minute homework's per evening

### 3.4 Middle School [Years 10-11]

During the GCSE years, pupils should be spending at least fourteen hours a week on academic study at home. This equates to about two hours every evening during the week and another four hours at the weekend. In the holidays, too, sometime should be devoted to revision and/or coursework but teachers should recognise that pupils need a rest too, especially during half- term holidays.

### 3.5 VI Form

In the Sixth Form, pupils should be devoting at least eighteen hours a week to academic study in addition to classroom learning. This work should be completed during private study periods at School, during evenings, and weekends at home. This means two to three hours each day during the week and another four or five hours at the weekend. Pupils will also be expected to do some work during the holidays; given the timings of internal mock examinations and external public examinations, this holiday workload will need to be significant in Year 11 and Upper Sixth.

In the Sixth Form, set homework would likely involve multiple learning tasks to be managed over a longer deadline (e.g. one week with work set and collected on the same day every week). However, this will vary from subject to subject.

### 3.6 Homework Subject Allocation

The homework time allocations for each subject in each year group are detailed below; inevitably, individual tasks may take some pupils less or more time to complete, and durations are provided as a reasonable guideline.

Parents are advised to inform the Form Tutor if their child is consistently spending more or less than the allotted time on homework tasks. Similarly, if other concerns pertaining to homework or homework expectations arise, for example the homework timetable not being followed for pupils in the Lower School, parents are encouraged to have a conversation with the Form Tutor in the first instance.

<p>Year 7  (3 x 20 minutes per evening)</p>	<p>English: 4 x 20 minutes per fortnight  Maths: 1 HW per week using Sparx set Wednesday to Wednesday</p>	<p>French, Spanish: 3 x 20 minutes per fortnight  Science, Latin, History, Geography, RPE, Computer Science: 2 x 20 minutes per fortnight  Music, Art, Design Technology, Drama: 1 x 20 minutes per fortnight</p>
<p>Year 8  (3 x 25 minutes per evening)</p>	<p>English: 3 x 25 minutes per fortnight  Maths: 1 HW per week using Sparx set Wednesday to Wednesday</p>	<p>Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Modern Foreign Language 1, Modern Foreign Language 2, Latin, History, Geography, RPE, Computer Science: 2 x 25 minutes per fortnight  Music, Art, Design Technology, Drama: 1 x 25 minutes per fortnight</p>
<p>Year 9  (3 x 30 minutes per evening)</p>	<p>English: 5 x 30 minutes per fortnight  Maths: 1 HW per week using Sparx set Wednesday to Wednesday</p>	<p>Modern Foreign Language 1: 3 x 30 minutes per fortnight  Biology, Chemistry, Physics, History, Geography, option subjects: 2 x 30 minutes per fortnight</p>
<p>Year 10 &amp; 11 (3 x 40 minutes per evening)</p>	<p>English: 5 x 40 minutes per fortnight  Maths: Year 10 1 HW per week using Sparx set Wednesday to Wednesday  Year 11 will half a past paper per week Wednesday to Wednesday</p>	<p>Option subjects: 4 x 40 minutes per fortnight</p>
<p>Lower Sixth &amp; Upper Sixth</p>	<p>12 hours per subject per fortnight (e.g. 3 hours from each of two teachers per week)  Any independent work as required for the Extended Project Qualification</p>	