



Home Learning (Homework) Strategy

Purpose

Home learning encompasses all learning that takes place outside of the taught classroom environment; typically it will happen at home, but it might be completed in the Learning Resource Centre, a public library, or other suitable environment. Home learning should be manageable and enjoyable, using a full range of 21st century media, including books, magazines, newspapers, Internet, social media, photography, television, radio and film.

Home Learning enhances pupil learning, improves achievement and develops pupils' study skills and as such is an integral part of the curriculum.

Home Learning plays a vital role in raising standards of achievement by pupils of all ages.

Home Learning enables pupils to:

- Develop the skills, confidence and motivation needed to study effectively on their own e.g. planning, time management and self discipline
- Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding developed at school or prepare for new learning
- Sustain the involvement of parents in the management of pupils' learning and keep them informed about the work pupils are doing
- Develop research skills
- Have an opportunity to develop independent working

Appropriate Tasks for Home Learning

Following student and parent/carer voice, received over time, the most common complaint is that students find homework too challenging to complete without the support of a teacher if the task is too difficult. Therefore, Park Lane will be adopting a 'flipped learning' strategy whereby homework is based on preparatory work 'homework prep' for the following lesson. This could be pre-reading, proof reading, research or perhaps accessing an exam board website, but should be a task achievable without the support of a subject specialist.

Policy Statement

All parents and teachers will be asked to commit to supporting and delivering home learning through a formal Home/School Agreement.

For pupils with special educational needs, the school recognises the need to balance the right of the pupils to share fully in the work of the class, including home learning tasks, with

their individual learning needs. Homework/prep work should be differentiated to meet the needs of all learners

1) Sanctions

When homework is not completed, teachers should initially support the pupil and ensure the tasks set meet the pupil's needs. If prep work is not completed on more than 1 occasion per half term then the following process should be followed:

- Class teacher – a note written to parents/carers via planner.
- If the matter is not resolved, a phone call should be made to parents/carers by the class teacher and a note recorded on SIMS re: parental contact
- Continued failure to complete prep work – record on SIMS 'homework report'. Email HOY and form tutor. Form tutor to place on homework report and monitor for 4 weeks. All failed homeworks, whilst on report, result in 1 hour after school detention.
- If the issue becomes cross-curricular (HOY to run fortnightly SIMS reports) – HOY to ask parents/carers in for a meeting and consider whether SEN referral is appropriate

2) Incentives

High quality Home Learning and a good work ethos should be sensitively praised in class. Where appropriate, Home Learning should be included in display work. Merits may be awarded for good Home Learning. For Exceptional pieces of Home Learning, a faculty letter/postcard may be sent home.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Home learning is monitored via the whole school quality assurance schedule. It is the class teachers' responsibility to set homework in line with the homework timetable. Any parental concerns should be addressed to the class teacher in the first instance*

* It is the Head of Departments' responsibility to quality assure that homework is being set in accordance with this policy. Any matters not resolved with the classroom teacher should be directed to the Head of Department. The senior leadership team will be responsible for holding all middle leaders to account and reviewing this policy.