



St Mary Magdalene Secondary Phase Key Stage 3 Homework Policy

Aim

The aim of this policy is to ensure that learning beyond the lesson is meaningful and has a positive impact on students' progress. The homework set should also establish habits and routines useful to the student now and in their future and encourage students to learn outside the classroom.

Principles

Homework is set in order to benefit students and we expect it to have a positive impact on students' progress. The evidence shows that the impact of homework, on average, is five months' additional progress, and more when the work set is very precise and closely monitored by teachers.

Thus, the following principles apply:

- We expect all students to complete homework to the best of their abilities, and parents/carers to support their child's learning when doing homework.
- Homework will reinforce prior learning and teachers will – verbally or in writing – make clear the required outcomes and success criteria.
- Homework will be related to recent class work, reinforcing and practising recently studied subject matter.
- Teachers will provide prompt and precise feedback on homework verbally and/or in writing, in a manner that enables the student to make progress, in line with the school's Assessment Policy and Marking Policy.
- Teachers will provide an opportunity for students to respond to this feedback as soon as possible and then put this learning into action through a task.

Procedures

Core subjects (excluding Social Sciences) will set on average one piece of homework per week. Projects will set on average three pieces of homework per half term; each piece of homework will be considerably larger than the homework set in core subjects. Homework in projects will relate to recent class work but may include choices for the student and encourage greater independent learning.

Faculty Leadership will be responsible for quality assurance of homework within their faculties/departments. Directors of Faculty will define 'effective homework' in each subject within their Faculty.

Homework will be uploaded by the teacher onto showmyhomework.co.uk so that students and parents/carers are able to see what work has been set. Teachers will allow time for students to write down the title of their homework in their planners and ensure they have understood it. This should not be done at the very end of the lesson.

Students who fail to complete a piece of homework on time will be given a C2 by their class teacher and a 15 minute detention on the same day. If the homework is not brought in the following day, they will be given a C3 detention by their class teacher, who will log this in the student's planner, on the MIS and contact the

student's parents/carers by telephone. A second failure to complete homework in one subject within one half term will result in a C4 detention.

Family tutors will be kept informed of whether their tutees complete their homework using the MIS and will liaise with teachers if they know of a relevant pastoral reason for a student failing to hand in their homework. In cases where a student persistently fails to complete homework and the family tutor and/or teacher have pastoral concerns, the matter will be referred to the Leadership and/or Inclusion team.

Regular provision is available for students to complete their homework in the school environment under supervision before school and at lunchtime.

A grade (1-4) will be given for the quality of homework as part of the reporting cycle.

As a minimum, each individual piece of homework will be given a grade (1-4) for effort, and a comment on the quality of work in relation to what was expected.

Excellent homework will be rewarded in line with the Behaviour and Rewards policy, and teachers will display the very best homework in their classrooms.

Teachers will strive to set homework that is inclusive, plays a role in enabling students to learn beyond the classroom and which extends life experiences, making use of London and Greenwich as resources.