

gilesacademy

Homework Policy

2018

RATIONALE

Homework is work that is set to be done outside the timetabled curriculum. It contains an element of independent study in that it is not usually directly supervised by a teacher. Not all homework is done at home; in fact, for some students who find it hard to work at home, or for some tasks which require resources available at school, the library is available at break and lunchtimes and after school until 6pm.

AIMS

Homework enables students to:

- Consolidate and extend work covered in class or prepare for new learning activities
- Access resources not available in the classroom
- Develop research skills
- Have an opportunity for independent work
- Show progress and understanding
- Provide feedback in the evaluation of teaching
- Enhance their study skills e.g. planning, time management and self discipline
- Take ownership and responsibility for learning
- Engage parental co-operation and support
- Create channels for home school dialogue

SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

The whole school policy details:

1. When homework will be set
2. Types of homework used
3. Subject incentives
4. Sanctions for unsatisfactory work
5. Homework is monitored and quality assured through the in subject department work scrutinies and through the whole school work scrutinies carried out by SLT.

HOMEWORK TASKS

Homework can be:

- Independent learning
- Consolidation of work in class to stretch, challenge and extend learning
- Practice - learning by doing
- Completion of course work assignments
- Research
- Reading
- Drawing
- Using ICT

INCENTIVES

It is imperative that we create a culture where achievement is driven by rewards, and students feel that their work and effort is valued. High quality homework and a good work ethos should be sensitively praised in class. Where appropriate, homework should be included in display work. Merits should be given as rewards for achievement and sustained effort with homework.

For exceptional pieces of homework, a subject letter or postcard may be sent home together with merits. Merits should also be awarded by the Form Tutor on a weekly basis to students for correct and sustained recording of homework, parental signature, and good use of the Student Planner.

SANCTIONS

When homework is not completed a range of sanctions can be employed as outlined in the Giles Academy Detention Plan. These sanctions are as follows:

1. Class Teacher - discussion with student and if necessary a Departmental Detention. Student could be placed on Subject Report if a persistent offender.
2. Failure to meet the above then referral to Head of Department who will speak to the student, who will then place the student in school detention and inform their parents/carers by telephone.
3. If the student fails to attend the school detention then they will automatically placed in after school detention and follow the Detention Plan.
4. The Head of Department will contact the students Form Teacher to discuss students attitude to homework to see whether the student has similar attitudes to homework in other subjects.
5. Form Tutors - through weekly monitoring of Student Planners, identify students with homework problems across several curriculum areas, or students who regularly do not record homework that has been set – discussion with student, referral made to Progress Coordinator (PC).
6. All of these actions should be logged on eportal

RESPONSIBILITIES

The role of the Student:

1. To listen to homework instructions in class.
2. To write down instructions for the task and deadline date into their planner.
3. To ensure that homework is completed and handed in to meet the deadline.
4. To attempt all work set with a serious attitude and aim to produce good quality work.
5. To inform their class teacher of any difficulties that they have in completing their homework.

The role of the Form Tutor:

1. To see that homework is being set and recorded in the Student Planner (weekly).
2. To check that the Student Planner is being signed by the parent/carer (weekly)
3. To note and respond to any comments written in planners by parents/carers.
4. To make good use of incentives whenever possible or carry out sanctions when appropriate.

The role of the Subject Teacher:

The Class Teacher controls the direction of homework and the nature of tasks undertaken. The Teacher will:

1. Set a meaningful homework for their subject as identified on the Departmental Homework plan.
2. Give full and comprehensive instructions on the Giles App and ensure that students can access the homework information.
3. Set deadlines for completed work and ensure that they are met.
4. Check, mark and return all homework promptly.
5. Provide help and support.
6. To make good use of incentives whenever possible or carry out sanctions when appropriate.
7. Make referrals to the Head of Department when necessary.
8. Will keep a record of homework tasks as part of lesson planning.
9. Make the record available to the Head of Department.

The role of the Librarian:

To provide break and lunchtime opportunities for independent study.

The role of the Parent/Carer:

The role of the Parent/Carer is crucial if a child is to gain success from homework. To reinforce its value through positive feedback will give students the confidence to persevere, work hard and reach high standards of achievement.

Parents can assist by:

1. Providing a quiet place to work.
2. Checking the time spent on individual tasks.
3. Checking presentation and content of all homework being returned to school.
4. Checking the Giles App to keep upto date with homework set.
5. Providing the school with information about any problems by contacting the subject teacher or school directly.

The role of the Head of Department:

1. To quality assure the homework set by sampling across all year groups.
2. To monitor and evaluate homework policy within their curriculum area as part of the quality assurance process in discussion with their Line Manager.

Assistant Headteacher (SLT Line Manager):

1. Will address issues raised by the whole school sampling of the use of the Giles App.
2. Will sample homework records through subject review.