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Homework Policy

Reviewed: March 2025

Next Review: August 2027

Reviewed by: Director for Teaching and Learning

Introduction

At Argyle House School we believe that homework can play a valuable part of the education of every student. It can make a significant contribution to developing student agency, the Learner Profile and conceptual understanding. Homework is most effective when it is purposeful and linked to the curriculum. A successful homework policy depends on teachers, pupils and parents working together. At Argyle House School, we value and recognise the importance of parental support in their child's education. Conversations at home, time alone to explain concepts and ideas, trips away and practicing key skills all contribute significantly to a student's development.

Rationale for Homework



- Allows pupils to develop agency, independent learning and key skills
- Fosters confidence in learning
- Instils self-discipline and personal organization
- Encourages parental engagement
- Allows broader inquiry than might be possible in the classroom
- Reinforces class work
- Gives students the opportunity to work at their own pace
- Gives opportunities for more flexible responses to a task set

Operational Procedures

Students in each class receive a Teams account, homework is posted to children and parents on Teams on Mondays in the Prep School. In Senior School homework is set following the Homework timetable which is shared with pupils and parents at the start of each academic year.

In the Prep School every week, core pieces of homework are set in English and Mathematics and there are weekly slots for learning the multiplication tables and spelling although students are expected to practise and review these regularly. S

(0191) 5100726 | 19 & 20 Thornhill Park, Sunderland SR2 7LA
Email: info@argylehouseschool.co.uk | www.argylehouseschool.co.uk

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Students write down the homework instructions in their planners. They might write a brief description of the tasks set and if the homework has been shared on Microsoft Teams then they will write where to find homework online.

The Maximum Duration of Homework

Nursery: optional 5 – 10 minutes

Reception: reading set every night 10 minutes

Year 1 and Year 2: Reading every night, spelling and timetable practice set weekly 15 minutes per night

Year 3 and Year 4: 20 - 30 minutes per night

Year 5 and Year 6: 20 – 30 minutes per night

Years 7, 8 and 9: Each subject sets 1 task – 30 – 40 minutes per week

Years 10 and 11: Mathematics and English set 2 tasks – 45 minutes per week and the remainder of subjects set 1 task – 45 minutes per week.

Adapting and Differentiating Homework

Homework tasks should be adapted and differentiated where necessary.

Numerous strategies exist:

- Choice of tasks
- Quantity of work required (eg number of words to be written)
- Directed tasks for specific groups within the class
- Different levels of support (eg writing frames at different levels, sentence starters for some students)
- A range of resources to be used
- A choice of presentation methods
- An additional extension activity for those more confident

Monitoring and Evaluation

Each student has a responsibility to:

- Keep parents informed about the homework through Microsoft class teams.
- Record in the planner the details of all homework
- Find a suitable place to study, well away from likely distractions



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- Persevere with difficult tasks but have the confidence to stop working on a homework task when she has, with diligence completed as much as she can in the time allocated
- Attempt the task, with care and concentration, to the standard expected and by the deadline given
- Ask for help and support as necessary but prior to the deadline set so that the work can be completed on time
- Remember that reading and learning homework tasks are important
- Respond positively to feedback given by teachers



Parents have a responsibility to:

- Support the school's policy on homework
- Provide a space for their child to work, away from any distractions if possible
- Check their child's planner, reading diary or teams account weekly and ensure the tasks are being written in and completed
- Sign the reading diary weekly
- Write a note or email if the work cannot be completed for any reason
- Contact staff about any concerns relating to homework
- Ensure that family activities consider the time their child's needs to complete his/her homework

Each teacher has a responsibility to:

- Set homework as required on Microsoft Teams and ensure that students record the tasks in their planners
- Set relevant homework with sufficient time in lessons to allow students to ask questions
- Keep accurate records of the homework set
- Give clear instructions to students about the homework tasks, including a clear deadline
- Offer appropriate help to a student if she experiences difficulty with his/her homework
- Provide meaningful feedback to students in line with the school's assessment policy
- When tasks are not completed and follow the normal referral procedures if homework is not completed on time

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- Advise parents of any continuing difficulty their child is having
- Respond promptly to any queries parents may have about homework

The Senior Leadership Team has a responsibility to:

- Maintain an overview of homework via random sampling of planners, and work scrutiny
- Ensure that students and parents are regularly informed of their responsibilities regarding homework.

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