

Why we set homework

We know from national research that homework can add up to 5 months of progress to your learning. So if you attend the full school year and complete your homework properly, you can make 17 months of progress in 12 months! Homework also helps you to learn to work by yourself, think for yourself, build good study skills and helps you to take control of your own learning. Homework also helps your teachers to identify gaps in knowledge or misconceptions so that they can support you in lessons to improve.

We are also careful to make sure that you have plenty of time for extracurricular activities, clubs, hobbies and interests, as well as socialising and family time. We always give you enough time to complete your homework and do not set homework that is due the next school day unless it is a very short (maximum 10 mins) consolidation or preparation task that is essential for the next day's lesson.

Key Stage 3

Almost all Key Stage 3 homework tasks are automatically assessed using an online platform chosen by each department. Even if you are using another platform e.g. Sparx, the homework will still be uploaded to Google Classroom with a link to the platform. This will be set as an assignment with a clear due date. This means that you know that all of your homework is available in one place and you can keep on top of your deadlines. You must also write it into your planner.

English Baccalaureate (EBacc) Subjects - For these subjects, you must complete your homework. Your teacher will need to enter a "Homework Concern" on ClassCharts if you do not complete it, and every 3 of these will lead to a 30 minute lunch time detention. Your teacher will contact home if you miss a few deadlines.

Subject	Amount	Platform
English	1 hour per fortnight	Sparx Reader - Auto assessed
Maths	1 hour per fortnight	Sparx Maths - Auto assessed
Science	1 hour per fortnight	Sparx Science - Auto assessed
History	30 minutes per fortnight	Google Classroom - Auto assessed
Geography	30 minutes per fortnight	Seneca/Educake - Auto assessed
Languages	30 minutes per fortnight	Quizlet/Memrise/Google Classroom - Auto assessed
Computing	30 minutes per fortnight	Seneca/Google Classroom - Auto assessed

Non-English Baccalaureate (EBacc) Subjects

Optional extension homework tasks will be set in all other subjects. You are encouraged to complete all homework tasks. However, we recognise that you may want to prioritise subjects where you have a strong interest, and are confident that you will choose it as a GCSE Option. Therefore, whilst homework will be available in all of these subjects as outlined below, you will not receive sanctions if you are not able to complete it. You should complete all of the tasks as far as possible. All homework assignments will be uploaded to Google Classroom with links to other platforms where appropriate.

Subject	Amount
RE	30 minutes per fortnight
Drama	30 minutes per fortnight
Music	30 minutes per fortnight
PE	30 minutes per fortnight
Design Technology	30 minutes per fortnight
Art	30 minutes per fortnight

Key Stage 4

There is more flexibility in KS4, with all teachers able to set the homework task of their choosing. This may utilise online self-assessing platforms, but you should expect a variety of homework tasks. All KS4 homework will be assessed either by the teacher, self, peer or automatic assessment, or used in the "due date" lesson. All KS4 homework will be uploaded to Google Classroom as an Assignment, with links to other platforms where applicable, and must also be written into your planner. KS4 students must complete all homework assignments in all subjects.

- English, Maths and Science - 1 hour per week.
- All other GCSE subjects - 1 hour per fortnight.

Deadlines

- KS3 - all homework has a deadline of 1-2 weeks.
- KS4 - English, Maths and Science - a minimum of 2 days for every 1 hours' worth of homework.
- KS4 - all other subjects - a minimum of 2 days for every 30 minutes' worth of homework.

Support

The library is available at lunchtime every day and after school every day apart from Wednesday. If you need help from a Teaching Assistant, you can complete your homework in LSC1 after school on Monday and Tuesday. LSC1 is also open and available every lunchtime.

If you are not sure what to do, please speak to your class teacher before the homework is due.

Sanctions and Rewards - KS3 EBacc Subjects and all subjects at KS4

- One "Homework Issue" entry on ClassCharts if you do not do your homework by the deadline, or it is not done properly.
- A thirty minute detention will automatically be awarded on ClassCharts for every 3 "Homework Issue" entries.
- Teachers will telephone or email home if you regularly fail to do your homework to a good standard. You will be invited to use the Library at lunch/after school.
- Teachers will give "Gold Standard Homework" praise points on ClassCharts for all homework that is excellent.
- Mr Baybutt checks the Whole School Homework Data on ClassCharts every week. Students with the most praise points for "Gold Standard Homework" receive a **Golden Ticket**. Students with several Homework Concerns receive contact home. Students with ongoing homework issues will be given more support to improve and will be monitored weekly until they have improved.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) & Tip Tips

1. Do your homework early!

We advise you to complete your homework as soon as you can once it has been set. It will be fresh in your mind and you will know that you have met the deadline to leave you with plenty of time for your other interests. It also means that you can ask your teacher for help if you need it before the homework is due.

2. Have a good homework space and good study habits

Make sure you have a quiet space to complete your homework, without other distractions. Put your phone away (unless you are doing it on your phone!) and turn off the TV or music so you can focus.

3. Can someone at home help me with my homework?

They can, but you should always try to do it yourself. Use your school book, knowledge organisers or research online if you are struggling.

4. What should I do if I am spending much longer on a homework task?

Speak to your teacher or ask your parents to write a note in your planner to explain you have spent a lot of time on the homework but have not managed to finish. If you have a note from home, you will not get a sanction.

5. How will I know what homework I need to do?

All homework will be set on Google Classroom as an assignment with a clear due date. This will also be written in your planner by you.

6. What do I do if my internet isn't working or my device is broken? Or I do not have the internet at home or a device to do it on.

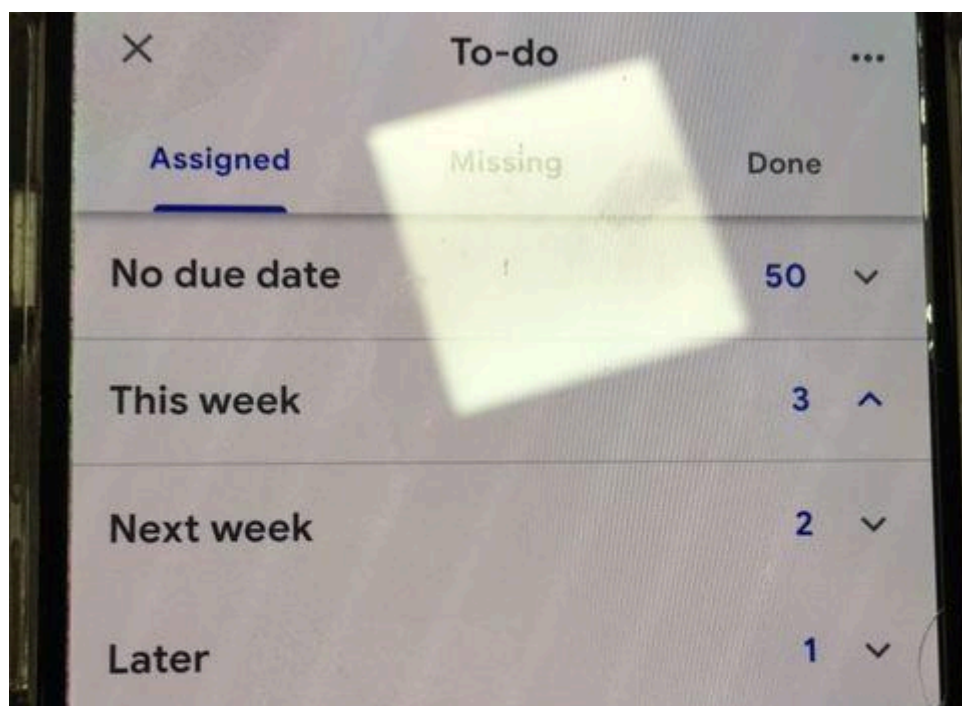
You can use the library at lunch time or after school. If you leave your homework to the last minute and this is an issue, ask for a note from home and you will be given an extension and not given a sanction. But try not to leave homework until the last minute so that this is not an issue.

7. Why do I have some homework assignments on my Google Classroom from a different teacher?

To help teachers with their workload, some departments share the job of uploading homework so you might find an assignment from a teacher that is not your teacher. This will almost always be a teacher in the same subject department. For example, you might be taught by Miss Steers for Geography, but it is uploaded by Mr Figures. As they are both Geography teachers and you all study the same curriculum, this is fine. If it is in your Google Classroom as an assignment and has a due date, you need to do this homework, even if it looks like it was set by a different teacher. Of course, your teacher will have also set this in the lesson. If it is an "optional" homework task, it is probably set by one teacher from the subject. For example, Mrs Sladen will upload all KS3 Drama homework as she is the Head of Drama (and Performance Faculty). So if you are taught by Mrs Rotherburg, Miss Watts, Mr Brothers, Mrs Harris or Mr Baybutt for Drama, your KS3 Drama homework will always be set by Mrs Sladen. You should do it if you can but won't be sanctioned if you cannot as this is one of the "optional" homeworks in KS3. (NOTE - KS4 Drama is not the same. You must do all homework in KS4!)

8. Why do some subjects have lots of homework listed without a deadline?

Again, this is to help with your teachers' workload. Some teachers or departments will upload lots of homework assignments at a time ready to set in a future lesson. You can ignore everything that is listed with "No due date" as this could be your homework for the whole year! You only need to do the homework that is set in your lesson and is on Google Classroom as an assignment with a deadline which is soon e.g. "This week" or "Next week". See an example below.



Ignore these - wait until they have a due date!

Do these tasks now! Or certainly by the due date.

Do these tasks as soon as you can, and by the due date.

You have plenty of time to do this one, but do it as soon as you can, and by the due date.

9. I cannot log on to Google Classroom.

Please speak to Mr Turner, Mr Pollard or Mr Hardy and they will be able to reset your password and/or provide log ins for you.

10. I still have questions about homework. Who should I talk to?

If it is about a homework task in a certain lesson, please speak to your class teacher. You could also speak to Miss Hodgson about Sparx Reader, Miss Tucker about Sparx Maths, or Mr Ferguson about Sparx Science. If you need help to get organised or are worrying about homework, please speak to your Form Tutor, Deputy Head/Head of Year. Mr Baybutt oversees homework across the whole school and you are always welcome to speak to him in the canteen at break or lunch time.