



The Rudheath
Senior Academy

Homework Policy 2021-2022

Rationale

We recognise that, when set correctly, homework can have a positive impact on students' learning. Homework at RSA aims to support students with retention of key information to support mastery of their learning and ultimately, achieve excellent outcomes. Evidence from the Education Endowment Fund (EEF) suggests that, on average, homework can add five months' additional progress to student learning.

We also recognise that studies indicate that, depending on their age, students should be completing between 1-2 hours of homework each evening for maximum benefit and we are mindful that the benefits to progress can decrease if students go above or beyond this amount.

Heads of Faculty have carefully designed subject specific curricula to build knowledge and skill over time; this is supplemented by the homework expectations outlined below.

Intention of Homework:

- To support and develop literacy across all subjects
- To offer opportunity for retrieval practice to aid students in remembering more and knowing more
- To help close gaps in knowledge
- To encourage development of independent study
- To help students learn more about the world around them
- To provide opportunities for parents/carers to support the learning of their children
- To help students realise their potential

Implementation:

There will be 6 main focusses for homework:

- 1) Subject specific vocabulary
- 2) Reviewing content (spaced retrieval practice of key knowledge, self-quizzing using knowledge organisers or online platforms)
- 3) Extended writing
- 4) Exam preparation (extended writing, practice questions, completion of coursework and independent reading).
- 5) Extended project to contextualise classroom learning and develop cultural capital- with weekly review
- 6) Development of a key skill (procedural knowledge such as map reading)

Teachers will ensure they follow these factors when generic homework is set:

- ✓ The activities are planned and focused
- ✓ The purpose of the homework is clear
- ✓ The quality of homework is more important than quantity.

Expectations: How much and by whom?

The year group tables below indicate to students and parents how much time should be allocated to each specific subject for homework and offer a maximum length for the time spent. We value the importance of work-life balance and would not expect any student to spend more than the recommended time. It is also important to remember that it is the quality of the work completed rather than the quantity.

Year 7:

Year 7 Homework	Suggested reading time	Subject 1	Max Length	Subject 2	Max Length
Monday	30 minutes	Languages/ *Project	30 minutes		
Tuesday	30 minutes	English	45 minutes	RE	30 minutes
Wednesday	30 minutes	Languages/ *Project	30 minutes		
Thursday	30 minutes	Maths	45 minutes		
Friday	30 minutes	Science	30 minutes		
Other subjects over the two week cycle					
Geography	1 hour		*Project	Technology	
History	1 hour			Art	
Music	30 minutes			IT	

Year 8:

Year 8 Homework	Suggested reading time	Subject 1	Max Length	Subject 2	Max Length
Monday	30 minutes	Maths	45 minutes	Languages	30 minutes
Tuesday	30 minutes	RE	30 minutes		
Wednesday	30 minutes	Science/ Technology	30 minutes		
Thursday	30 minutes	English	45 minutes		
Friday	30 minutes	Science/ Technology	30 minutes		
Other subjects over the two week cycle					
Geography	1 hour				
History	1 hour				
IT	30 minutes				
Music	30 minutes				
Art	30 minutes				
Drama	30 minutes				

Year 9:

Year 9 Homework	Suggested reading time	Subject 1	Max Length
Monday	30 minutes	Maths	45 minutes
Tuesday	30 minutes	RE	30 minutes
Wednesday	30 minutes	English	45 minutes
Thursday	30 minutes	Science	45 minutes
Friday	30 minutes	Languages	45 minutes

Other subjects over the two week cycle		
Geography	1 hour	
History	1 hour	
IT	30 minutes	
Music	30 minutes	
Art	30 minutes	
Drama	30 minutes	
Technology	30 minutes	

Year 10

Year 10

Year 10 Homework	Suggested reading time	Subject 1	Max Length	Subject 2	Max Length
Monday	30 minutes	Maths	1 hour	RE	30 minutes
Tuesday	30 minutes	Option B	45 minutes	English	1 hour
Wednesday	30 minutes	Option D	45 minutes	Science	1 hour
Thursday	30 minutes	Option A	45 minutes	START careers	30 minutes
Friday	30 minutes	Option C	45 minutes	Weekly reflections	30 minutes
Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D		
History	i-Media	History	Travel and Tourism		
Geography	Business studies	Food and Nutrition	Music		
Separate Sciences	Sport	Art and Design	Media studies		
Personal development	Drama	Spanish	Health and Social Care		
	D&T		i-Media		

Year 11

Year 11 Homework	Suggested reading time	Subject 1	Max Length	Subject 2	Max Length
Monday	30 minutes	Maths	1 hour	Science	1 hour
Tuesday	30 minutes	Option D	45 minutes	English	1 hour
Wednesday	30 minutes	Option A	45 minutes	RE	30 minutes
Thursday	30 minutes	Option B	45 minutes	START	30 minutes
Friday	30 minutes	Option C	45 minutes	Weekly reflections	30 minutes
Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D		
Separate Science	Business studies	Art and Design	Spanish		
Sport	Music	Food and Nutrition	Construction		
Performing Arts	History	History	Health and Social Care		
Geography	Drama		DIT		

In addition to the work set in class, all students in Key Stage 3 are advised to regularly revise and review their notes, seek enrichment opportunities and challenges. It is also recommended for students to read for pleasure for at least 30 minutes a night. In addition to promoting reading for pleasure, students benefit from enhanced fluency and the wider general knowledge that arises from regular reading, thus supporting learning in all aspects of the curriculum. Literacy will continue to be promoted throughout the curriculum and reading for pleasure will be supported through the soon to be launched "Expert Reader" programme.

Subject Expectations: What do students have to do?

English	<p>KS3: Students should learn their 5 vocabulary words for the specific week, self-testing on the definition and spelling using “look cover check” method, writing out repeatedly to ensure retention. Students are strongly encouraged to read outside of English lessons and can access reading material through the “Independent Reading Booklet”. It is recommended that students read at least twice a week for 30 minutes.</p> <p>KS4: Students are set weekly homework which includes revising areas of study that have been taught across the year. Students each have a Seneca log in to access quizzes and tasks related to their Literature texts and Language Papers studied at GCSE.</p>
Maths	<p>KS3 homework’s are set following the scheme of learning for White Rose Maths.</p> <p>KS4 homework’s are set following the AQA syllabus.</p> <p>Homework’s are primarily intended to consolidate and extend the learning which occurs in class whilst also developing opportunities for students to engage in additional investigations, research and problem-solving tasks. Tasks will be set through a mixture of online platforms including Mymaths and Seneca.</p> <p>Students are also encouraged to learn the key vocabulary for each unit of work, published in their knowledge organisers and located in student books and on Teams. Paper based tasks and online quizzes will help students to gain a good grasp of the new terminology and vocabulary required.</p> <p>www.mymaths.co.uk</p> <p>www.senecalearning.com</p> <p>Logon details: Students can find their logon details through their relevant Year TEAM on Microsoft TEAMS.</p>
Science	<p>KS3: For each unit pupils are set their 10 science specific vocabulary words. They should learn the spellings and definitions of these using the ‘look, cover, check’ method in preparation for a spellings and meanings test the following week.</p> <p>They should try and repeat this to ensure this remains in their long-term memory.</p> <p>For their following homework pupils will be set a test involving 10 multiple choice questions to assess their learning within that unit.</p> <p>KS4: For each unit pupils are set their 10 science specific vocabulary words. They should learn the spellings and definitions of these using the ‘look, cover, check’ method in preparation for a spellings and meanings test the following week.</p> <p>They should try and repeat this to ensure this remains in their long-term memory.</p>

	<p>Pupils will then be set relevant multiple choice tests through Seneca learning. For this they should use their knowledge organisers as a means of revising for this.</p> <p>www.senecalearning.com</p> <p>Logon details: Students can find their logon details through their relevant Year TEAM on Microsoft TEAMS.</p>
History	<p>KS3: Pupils receive a takeaway homework project every half term, the project is linked to the topic being studied. These projects provide further research opportunities for pupils to expand their knowledge and increase their interest in the studied topic. Copies of the homework project will be given directly to the pupils on paper as well as on teams. Projects can be submitted both physically and on line through teams.</p> <p>KS4: Pupils receive topic booklets that relate to each individual component of the GCSE course being studied. These booklets support pupil learning and allow for further practice of essential exam technique. Booklets are available to pupils in both physical and on line formats. These are submitted both physically and online through teams.</p>
Geography	<p>KS3: Pupils receive a takeaway homework project every half term, the project is linked to the topic being studied. These projects provide further research opportunities for pupils to expand their knowledge and increase their interest in the studied topic. Copies of the homework project will be given directly to the pupils on paper as well as on teams. Projects can be submitted both physically and on line through teams.</p> <p>KS4: pupils receive topic booklets that relate to each individual component of the GCSE course being studied. These booklets support pupil learning and allow for further practice of essential exam technique. Booklets are available to pupils in both physical and on line formats. These are submitted both physically and online through teams.</p>
Languages	<p>KS3: Homework will be set on Language Nut to revise core vocabulary which will be tested in class to ensure retention of core vocabulary.</p> <p>KS4: Homework will be set once a fortnight on Language Nut to revise core vocabulary which will be tested in class. Exam style questions will also be set to ensure students are familiarising themselves with the format of exam style questions.</p>
RE	<p>Homework will be set termly homework tasks through the SENCA learning platform that pupils will be able to access through Teams.</p>
Music	<p>KS3: Homework set once per fortnight through Teams. The self-testing homework requires students to quiz their subject specific vocabulary and refine their exam preparation techniques.</p> <p>KS4: Homework set on a weekly basis on Focus on Sound through Teams. The self-testing homework requires students to quiz their subject specific vocabulary, review their skills and refine their exam preparation techniques.</p>
Art	<p>KS3: Homework set once per fortnight through Teams. The self-testing homework requires students to quiz their subject specific vocabulary and refine their exam preparation techniques.</p>

	<p>KS4: Homework set on a weekly basis and follows on from their lessons. This ongoing homework is based on their project and sketchbook work, it will also include subject specific vocabulary, review their skills and refine their exam preparation.</p>
Drama	<p>KS3: Homework set once per fortnight through Teams. The homework requires students to quiz their knowledge or complete a task to support learning in lessons.</p> <p>KS4: Homework set on a weekly basis on Teams. Homework will relate to each component in the course based around their subject specific vocabulary, review of their skills and refine their exam preparation techniques.</p>
Business Studies	<p>Homeworks set on Microsoft Teams. Homework will relate to each component in the course based around their subject specific vocabulary, review of their skills and refining their exam preparation techniques. Additional tasks such as independent research, creation of fact files and the reading of business articles will ensure that students are in touch with current business trends and news.</p>
Design Technology	<p>KS3: Homework set once per fortnight through Teams. The self-testing homework requires students to quiz their subject specific vocabulary and refine their exam preparation techniques.</p> <p>KS4: Homework set on a weekly basis and follows on from their lessons. This will depend on theory or practical. This homework is based on their project-based learning, it will also include subject specific vocabulary, review their skills, and refine their exam preparation.</p>
I-Media	<p>Homework set on Microsoft Teams. Homework will relate to each component in the course based around their subject specific vocabulary, review of their skills and refining their exam preparation techniques.</p>
BTECs: Sport, Health and Social Care, Performing Arts and other BTECs	<p>Students will receive 1 piece of homework per week that will focus on checking knowledge based upon the key BTEC learning aims. This will prepare students for internal or external (exam) assessment and will be set in class and via Microsoft Teams.</p>
Media Studies	<p>Homework is set on Microsoft Teams (Class Notebook) and will support topics focused on in class. Homework will generally be research based however, on occasion homework will ask students to practice skillset that has been developed in class. This will be once per week and should take approximately 45 minutes to complete.</p>
Travel & Tourism	<p>Homework's will focus on extended writing pieces in preparation for coursework, students will also be required to complete elements of their coursework where appropriate.</p>

	Students will practice new skills and knowledge as well as being required to retrieve prior knowledge, engaging in quizzes using Microsoft Forms and Teams.
Food and Nutrition	<p>KS3: Homework set once per fortnight through Teams. The self-testing homework requires students to quiz their subject specific vocabulary and refine their exam preparation techniques.</p> <p>KS4: Homework set on a weekly basis and follows on from their lessons. This will depend on theory or practical. This ongoing homework is based on their project-based learning, it will also include subject specific vocabulary, review their skills, and refine their exam preparation, again in theory and practical.</p>

Responsibilities

The role of the pupil:

- To listen to homework instructions in class.
- To visit the school homework calendar via the school website.
- To ensure that homework is completed and handed in to meet the deadline.
- To attempt all work and give their best.
- To inform the class teacher of any difficulties.

The role of the Form Tutor:

- To include homework in pupil mentoring where appropriate.
- To see that homework is being set and recorded in planners
- To check the students know where to access the school homework.
- To note and respond to any comments received by parents.

The role of the Class Teacher:

- The class teacher controls the direction of homework and the nature of tasks undertaken.

Set homework according to Rudheath's homework policy.

- Give full and comprehensive instructions.
- Set deadlines for completed work and ensure that they are met.
- Provide help and support.

The role of the Head of Faculty/Head of Subject:

- To seek to enhance the quality of homework set.
- To monitor and evaluate homework within their curriculum area.
- To praise accordingly student that consistently do homework and highlight the learners that need support.

The role of SLT member responsible for homework:

- To provide staff, pupils and parents with the necessary homework documentation.
- To develop classroom practice to enhance homework across the school.
- To review on a termly basis the school homework policy.
- To monitor and evaluate the school homework policy.

Parental Engagement & Homework

***'Children who regularly complete homework have better school outcomes than children who do not.'* - Education Endowment Foundation (2019)**

'Creating a daily homework routine that is clearly communicated to children and reinforced with praise and rewards can increase the amount of time spent on homework and improve the effectiveness of how that time is spent.'

In addition, it is possible that this approach will have long-term benefits as children learn to develop good habits and regulate their own behaviour. As with home learning more widely, parental support for homework can promote the self-regulation in children necessary to achieve academic goals including goal-setting, planning, perseverance, and the management of time, materials, attentiveness, and emotions.' Education Endowment Foundation (2019)

Top Tips

- Keep a designated homework area at home.
- Help keep a routine for your child when they come to do homework.
- Praise and encourage your child to help boost their confidence.
- Refrain from completing your child's homework for them.
- Ask your child about their homework and sign their planner.
- Encourage your child, especially in Year 7, to note down in their planner the time it takes him to complete each homework.
- Don't get stressed out by homework - if you are, your child will be too. If there is an issue please contact us.

Additional resources to support home-learning:

- <https://manybooks.net/>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>

- <https://www.thenational.academy>

Quality Assurance:

- The homework policy will be monitored and evaluated annually.
- Teachers will be able to keep a record their homework set via teams
- Heads of Department are responsible for monitoring the frequency and quality of homework set for their subject.
- Each half-term the homework policy will be reviewed within departments to ensure the tasks provided are best suiting the needs of their students and are purposeful and meaningful.
- Student voice will be used as a means of quality assuring homework.