



# The Priory School Trust

## HOMEWORK POLICY

Monitoring	Frame of engagement	Date
<b>Member of Staff Responsible</b>	Mrs R Shaw	September 2017
<b>Governor Accountability</b>	Full Governing Body	
<b>Consultation Parameters</b>	SLT	
<b>Information</b>	Teaching Staff Parents/ carers Students	
<b>Date of latest version</b>		September 2017
<b>Date for next review (and cycle)</b>		
<b>Uploaded to Website</b>		September 2017

## **The Priory School Homework Policy**

### **Selfless, Self-assured, Successful**

#### **Statement of Intent**

The Priory School regards homework as part of the curriculum and an element of an outstanding education. Meaningful homework should be planned and prepared alongside all other programmes of learning. At The Priory School, we recognise the significant value of students involving themselves in activities outside of the classroom and believe that, especially at Key Stage 3, completing homework should not be to the detriment of being a well-rounded individual who has varied interests.

#### **Agreed definition of Homework**

Homework is a task assigned to students by their teachers to be completed outside of the classroom. The nature of homework set varies with the demands of each area of the curriculum and the stage reached in a particular subject at any one time. Homework should be relevant and appropriate and tasks will be personalised to the age, needs and ability of the students.

The aims of this policy are to:

- give students, parents, carers and teaching staff an understanding of how much homework is set at each educational stage, and the reasons behind this
- provide a clear outline of the type of tasks students may be set
- suggest to parents/ carers ways in which they can support their child's learning outside of the classroom
- explain the support and resources that are available to students with homework
- promote the use of Show My Homework
- outline the sanctions in place should homework not be completed or to the required standard

A well-planned and well-managed homework programme helps students to develop the skills, attitudes and disciplines they will need for successful learning during their school career and beyond. Homework can provide opportunities for students to reflect on their own learning, supporting the development of independent learning skills and reinforcing positive attitudes to work.

While recognising the value of homework, children also need time to relax, enjoy life and learn through experiences outside of the normal school day. There are many opportunities to learn and develop through participation in a wide range of challenging and enjoyable extracurricular activities such as the arts, sport, volunteering and community activities. Homework should not unduly restrict a child's access to these opportunities.

## **The role of parents/ carers**

Homework can also provide parents and carers with an opportunity to take part in their children's education and give an insight into their learning. It is advised that parents and carers support their children in establishing good homework routines and provide an appropriate space within the home where this learning can take place (see too paragraph 5 for details of Homework club).

## **The quantity and nature of homework**

In the first half term of Year 7, very little homework will be set in order that students can focus on acclimatising to secondary school and not become overwhelmed. As the Key Stage progresses, staff will take a 'light touch' approach to homework tasks and these may be preparatory or reflective in nature. In Year 9, the quantity of homework will increase to prepare students for the demands of the GCSE curriculum. By Year 10 and 11, students should expect an average of one hour's homework per subject, per week, alongside focused revision for GCSE. Increasingly, as your child progresses through the school, you will notice the quantity of homework increase.

## **Support and Resources**

The School uses online-tool Show My Homework (SMHW), which allows students and parents to view homework tasks, and deadlines via the internet; Year 7 students and parents receive a login in September. All students are provided with a school planner in which they are encouraged to record homework and relevant details. Consistent use of SMHW is essential in a student successfully managing their homework responsibilities, and accessing relevant resources uploaded by teachers.

The Library is available after school Monday - Thursday for students and in addition, a Homework Club operates offering advice and assistance to support students in completing homework within the school environment. Alongside a range of non-fiction resources, the library also offers access to the internet via a suite of laptops.

## **Expectations and Sanctions**

Clear homework deadlines are issued to students when homework is set, along with guidance as to how long a task might take; these details are recorded on SMHW. If a student fails to meet a homework deadline, a departmental, after school detention will be issued. If the homework is felt to be insufficient or incomplete, school sanctions will also apply, dependent on the professional judgement of the class teacher or Head of Department. In both cases, the expectation is that students will still complete the homework task. Parents/ carers are informed of after school detentions via a detention slip 24 hours in advance of the detention.