

Homework Rationales

2016-17

Art

Key Stage 3

Likely nature of homework tasks:

Continuation of classwork to enhance the quality of outcome / practice the skills started in class.
Artist research tasks to explore the work of identified artists in order to apply findings to their own pieces.

How it will support and build on class work:

It will enhance the understanding and skill sets acquired in order to improve both the quality of outcome and the knowledge base for exploring different techniques, media and subjects.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

It will be based on progress through the projects started in class and be set according to the scheme of work.

How parents can support development:

Discuss the subject matter with your child. Explore options they could pursue with their work and facilitate access to examples of artist's work either via the internet or use of local amenities such as the library.

Other information:

Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

Continuation of classwork to enhance the quality of outcome / practice the skills started in class.
Artist research tasks to explore the work of identified artists in order to apply findings to their own pieces.

How it will support and build on class work:

It will enhance the understanding and skill sets acquired in order to improve both the quality of outcome and the knowledge base for exploring different techniques, media and subjects.
It will allow students to specialize and improve their craft in particular areas of interest.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Weekly for around 1-2 hours – this may vary due to curriculum factors so is a guide only.

How parents can support development:

Discuss the subject matter with your child. Explore options they could pursue with their work and facilitate access to examples of artist's work either via the internet or use of local amenities such as the library.

Other information:

Business Studies

Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

All homework tasks will have a strong exam focus and will assess skills and subject knowledge. This will take the form of exam style questions.

How it will support and build on class work:

Exam questions will focus on the subject content and geographical skills they will be expected to demonstrate.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Exam questions will be set on a weekly basis and will expect to take a minimum of 30 minutes.

How parents can support development:

Parents can support by ensuring students have access to revision guides and helping with personal organisation and timing of exam answers.

Other information:

All students have been provided with a course revision guide, this will cover the basics for each topic and will be a good reference point for students if they need to check their understanding of key points.

Catering

Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

Research based looking at different menus and recipes. Create ideas that can be implemented on our menus.

How it will support and build on class work:

It will allow for personalized input into their assignments and help improve the standard of outcomes.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

This will depend on the stage they are at with their assignments and on their classroom input

How parents can support development:

To read the assignment briefs with the pupil and to help direct them to resources which will help them achieve the best grade possible.

Other information:

Citizenship

Key Stage 3

Likely nature of homework tasks:

All homework will be testing knowledge and reviewing learning to improve performance linking to exam expectations. Tasks may involve exam style questions, researching topic areas, providing a range of justifiable views and opinions on issues we cover.

How it will support and build on class work:

Groups will be set appropriate homework to extend learning, revise topic knowledge and extend skills linking to exam requirements.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Worksheets and tasks will be provided throughout the topic, spending 15 minutes per lesson topic, this will be set at appropriate intervals during each topic, minimum of fortnightly.

How parents can support development:

Parents can familiarise themselves with the topic content and monitor completion. Students should be able to explain the work to parents to enforce understanding.

Other information:

Where appropriate websites to support learning will be highlighted.

Computing

Key Stage 3

Likely nature of homework tasks:

Homework will be testing theoretical aspects of the course enabling prior learning to be revisited and improve assessment performance. This will be exam style questions or theory worksheets.

How it will support and build on class work:

Computing teachers set groups relevant homework to topics currently being studied by students. This will allow students to extend their learning and improve exam performance.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

A mini assessment project will be set each half term for students to complete. Students will be expected to spend an hour every three weeks and submit at the end of each half term.

How parents can support development:

Parents will need to ensure that they are familiar with the assessment material and ask students to share with them their assessment material. Students should be able to explain to parents the work they have completed.

Other information:

The course is supported by BBC bitesize.

Computer Science/ECDL

Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

Homework will be testing theoretical aspects of the course enabling prior learning to be revisited and improve exam performance. This will be exam style questions or theory worksheets.

How it will support and build on class work:

Computing teachers set groups relevant homework to topics currently being studied by students. This will allow students to extend their learning and improve exam performance.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Exam questions/theory worksheet will be an hour's length and set fortnightly.

How parents can support development:

Parents will need to ensure that they are familiar with the exam material and ask students to share with them their exam material. Students should be able to explain to parents the work they have completed.

Other information:

The course is supported by BBC bitesize and revision guides are available to purchase from the computing department.

Drama

Key Stage 3

Likely nature of homework tasks:

All homework will be testing knowledge of Drama strategies or mediums and will be linked to the GCSE specification in order to develop/review skills and improve exam performance. This will be evaluative or analysis style questions or worksheets.

How it will support and build on class work:

The homework will extend learning and encourage students to revise the writing style for exam based questions and worksheets. Each homework set will link to the current topic of study.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Each evaluative homework is likely to take 1 hour to complete and the worksheets should take approximately 30 minutes. Homework will be set fortnightly.

How parents can support development:

Students should inform parents of the work they have completed during lessons and questioning about this would be very beneficial. Written work will require checking spelling, grammar and punctuation. Parents should ensure that they are familiar with the techniques studied where possible.

Other information:

The course is supported by BBC Bitesize and all information on techniques studied can be located there.

English

Key Stage 3

Likely nature of homework tasks:

- Fortnightly to half termly spelling tests
- Research about texts
- PEE analysis
- Writing in role

How it will support and build on class work:

- Homework will relate to a certain skill such as PEE, inference or the use of varied vocabulary

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

- Weekly tasks, up to 30 minutes per task.

How parents can support development:

- Proof reading answers
- Testing spellings

Other information:

- Reading set texts in AR time would be useful
 - The Bitesize website has lots of good revision tools on it.
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Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

All homeworks will require students to engage with exam style questions where they will be expected to complete extended responses. At times, students will also be encouraged to act on feedback given in class either answering questions to deepen learning or redrafting PEE paragraphs.

How it will support and build on class work:

Homework will allow students to consolidate new knowledge acquired in class and apply it to a specific question.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Once every fortnight. One hour.

How parents can support development:

It would be useful for parents to proof read their child's work for SPAG and coherency. Where a success criterion has been provided, parents could also use this as a crib sheet to ensure all aspects of the task have been covered. Furthermore, BBC Bitesize is an effective website to upskill and enhance knowledge on texts students are studying in class.

Other information:

AWS is available at Chapter times to provide support for any student who requires help with their English homework. Booster sessions take place P7 on a Wednesday.

French

Key Stage 3

Likely nature of homework tasks:

Vocabulary test revision
Reading comprehensions
Translations
Writing short paragraphs in French

How it will support and build on class work:

All homework tasks will consolidate the topics covered in class to secure students' learning.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Weekly to fortnightly, up to 30 minutes per homework.

How parents can support development:

Support vocabulary learning by testing your child or allowing them to teach you some of the words they've learnt.
Access to a French dictionary (a paper copy or using www.wordreference.com)

Other information:

SW and LS are available Tues-Friday lunchtimes and after school for homework support.

Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

Vocabulary test revision
Reading comprehensions
Translations
Writing short paragraphs in French

How it will support and build on class work:

All homework tasks will consolidate the topics covered in class to secure students' learning.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Weekly, up to 45 minutes per homework.

How parents can support development:

Support vocabulary learning by testing your child or allowing them to teach you some of the words they've learnt.
Access to a French dictionary (a paper copy or using www.wordreference.com)
Purchase a revision guide (Pearson or CGP)

Other information:

SW and LS are available Tues-Friday lunchtimes and after school for homework support.

Geography

Key Stage 3

Likely nature of homework tasks:

All homework tasks will take the form of a geographical investigation. Linking to the topics studied each half term.

How it will support and build on class work:

The focus of the geographical enquiry will be linked to the topic studied and build students investigation skills.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

One investigation will be set each half term. These will have four check points relating to the stages of the investigation.

How parents can support development:

Parents should monitor the progress of their child against the check points and encourage them using a variety of sources of information in their research stage.

Other information:

Students may access support in school from their class teacher (by arrangement at lunch time or after school). KS3 Bitesize and 3D Geography are excellent online tools.

Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

All homework tasks will have a strong exam focus and will assess skills and subject knowledge. This will take the form of exam style questions.

How it will support and build on class work:

Exam questions will focus on the subject content and geographical skills they will be expected to demonstrate.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Exam questions will be set on a weekly basis and will expect to take a minimum of 30 minutes.

How parents can support development:

Parents can support by ensuring students have access to revision guides and helping with personal organisation and timing of exam answers.

Other information:

Students may find that BBC Bitesize or their class books will support the development of their answers.

Health and Social Care

Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

All homework will test and extend understanding; reviewing learning will help to embed knowledge surrounding health and social care. This will endeavor to improve exam and coursework performance.

Homework will also consist of worksheets, research tasks and short and extended exam style questions.

How it will support and build on class work:

Appropriate homework will be set to extend knowledge and understanding, for revision purposes and to further improve examination performance.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Examination Units - Homework will be set fortnight for exam based units.

Coursework Units – Homework will be set termly. This will be monitored via a number of deadlines which will form the whole project.

How parents can support development:

Parents should familiarize themselves with examination materials. Questioning students on work completed in class will enable students to consolidate their learning.

Other information:

GCSE – OCR based BTEC – revision guides and worksheets are available to purchase from the science faculty.

History

Key Stage 3

Likely nature of homework tasks:

All homework will develop and deepen learning from the lessons and will develop students' ability to complete extended writing and carry out research independently.

How it will support and build on class work:

History teachers will ensure that the homework is appropriate for the students ability and that it develops their learning outside of the classroom - deepening their understanding of the topic.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Students will be set homework once a fortnight and it should take approximately 45 minutes to complete.

How parents can support development:

Parents should ensure that they ask students to show them their homework booklets that contain all the homework tasks for the whole half term. Students should be able to explain to parents how their learning in lessons will support them in completing the homework tasks.

Other information:

If when research tasks are set, students have issues accessing the internet, then they can use the computers in F02 any lunchtime or Tuesday and Wednesday after-school.

Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

All homework will embed learning from the lessons and will develop students familiarity and skill of answering exam-style questions.

How it will support and build on class work:

History teachers will ensure that the homework set is appropriate to continue to develop students learning outside of the classroom, improve their exam technique or revise previous topics.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Exam question/extended writing task will be set once a fortnight and should take approximately one hour to complete.

How parents can support development:

Parents should ensure that they ask students to show them their class work/exam question/extended writing task. Students should be able to explain to parents how their learning in lessons will allow them to complete the homework task.

Other information:

As this is a new specification, revision guides are not yet available. However, as soon as they are students will be made aware of where they can purchase them from. Support within school is also available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays after school.

Mathematics

Key Stage 3

Likely nature of homework tasks:

Topics from the previous half term or current topics to embed learning, exam style questions where appropriate.

How it will support and build on class work:

Math's teachers set appropriate homework based on their groups. This is to extend learning, revise skills, answer exam style questions and problem solving tasks.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Minimum of 30 minutes per week.

How parents can support development:

Parents can support by checking homework is complete. Students should be able to explain to parents / guardians the work they have done and therefore regular questioning about their work would be beneficial.

Other information:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zqhs34j>

www.mymaths.co.uk

user name: clough

password: space

Followed by their personal log in details.

Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

Revise previous topics or current topics to embed learning, exam questions where appropriate.

How it will support and build on class work:

Math's teachers set appropriate homework based on their groups. This is to extend learning, revise skills, answer GCSE exam questions and work through problem solving tasks.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Minimum of 45 minutes per week.

How parents can support development:

Parents can support by checking homework is complete. Students should be able to explain to parents / guardians the work they have done and therefore regular questioning about their work would be beneficial. Actively encouraging students to work independently by seeking unknown information from other sources.

Other information:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z38pycw>

www.mymaths.co.uk

user name: clough

password: space

Followed by their personal log in details.

Media Studies

Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

Homework will consolidate understanding of media language and representation by allowing students to analyse a range of media texts and respond to exam style questions.

How it will support and build on class work:

Media Studies teachers set their groups homework to develop their understanding; practise analysing media texts; refine exam technique and to encourage independent learning.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Students will be set homework fortnightly. They will be given a recommended time allocation for each homework set which will depend on the nature of the task, for example, timed responses to exam style questions to encourage appropriate time management.

How parents/carers can support development:

Parents/carers can help by asking the children to explain their homework to them, which could lead to a broader discussion about the work being studied in Media Studies. Parents can ask students questions about work in their exercise book and assessments to familiarise themselves with the content of the course.

Other information:

If you require any information about revision material, please contact your child's teacher.

Music

Key Stage 3

Likely nature of homework tasks:

Listening tasks – leading to production of musical reasons for enjoyment / dislike; theory tasks; extended writing tasks

How it will support and build on class work:

In class we listen a piece of music every week and outline reasons for enjoyment / dislike of the week's piece; theory will always build on learning from lessons; extended writing will relate to composition tasks on the whole

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Fortnightly 20-30 minutes

How parents can support development:

Listen with your child; talk about music on the radio or on the iPod etc

Other information:

Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

Composition tasks; practice for the performance element of the qualification; listening tasks; revision; theory

How it will support and build on class work:

It will always be directly related to the learning from the lesson, unless it is performance-related.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Weekly – 1 hour

How parents can support development:

Encourage weekly practice; encourage the listening of different musical genres "for pleasure" at home; listen to compositional development work and offer opinion on the musical effects of the work

Other information:

On top of usual music homework, GCSE music students ought to be practising their performance pieces at least 3 times a week for 20-30 minutes

Physical Education

Key Stage 3

Likely nature of homework tasks:

Homework in Key Stage 3 will only be for Year 9. All homework will be bridging the gap between KS3 and KS4 in relation to the theoretical aspects of physical education. This will enable students to perform better at GCSE Physical Education and also make more informed choices regarding their healthy, active lifestyles. Homework will be set in the form of booklets that will link directly to the GCSE drip feed in the schemes of work for each activity.

How it will support and build on class work:

Physical Education teachers will set homework that enables students to link their practical performances to anatomy and physiology, sports psychology and health and fitness.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Pupils will complete a simple question and answer or labeling tasks which will last 30 minutes fortnightly.

How parents can support development:

Parents can support the development of their child by encouraging them to attend extra-curricular activities as well as represent their school in competitions. Parents could also familiarise themselves with the booklets and question pupils on each topic.

Other information:

Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

All homework task will be developing on what the pupils have learnt within the lessons. This is will be in the form of exam questions, extended answers (9 marks) and also the option of takeaway homework allow pupils to choose the task that they wish to complete.

How it will support and build on class work:

Physical Education teachers will set appropriate tasks that will ensure that pupils continue to learn outside of the classroom. Task will allow pupils to develop extended writing, revision skills and examination technique.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Pupils will be set 30 minute tasks fortnightly.

How parents can support development:

Parents could buy the AQA GCSE PE 1-9 Workbook, familiarise themselves with the content and use the questions from the book to test pupils understanding. Parents could also support by checking planners and ensuring the homework is completed on time.

Other information:

Religious Education

Key Stage 3

Likely nature of homework tasks:

- Research tasks
- Extended written responses.

How it will support and build on class work:

Homework will consolidate classwork as well as challenging pupils to take their learning further. On occasion pupils could be required to use their research in lessons to boost their learning.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

1 piece of homework every 2 weeks. This should take between 30-45 minutes.

How parents can support development:

It is important that parents are supportive of RE and that pupils share their engagement and learning with parents through asking questions about their learning and encouraging them to complete tasks well and in detail.

Other information:

Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

- Exam style question practice
- Content based work
- Revision for assessments.

How it will support and build on class work:

Consolidation of classwork as well as encouraging exam practice and independent learning.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

1 homework every 2 weeks that should take approximately 30 minutes.

How parents can support development:

It is important that parents are supportive of RE and that pupils share their engagement and learning through encouraging pupils to use their class notes to apply their learning to exam questions.

Other information:

Science

Key Stage 3

Likely nature of homework tasks:

All homework will be testing technical knowledge so as to review learning and practice applying subject knowledge. This will be completed in the form of exam styles questions or theory worksheets.

How it will support and build on class work:

Science teachers set their groups appropriate homework to extend learning, revise skills, apply key scientific concepts or encourage problem solving.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Exam questions/technical worksheet will be 20 minutes in length and set weekly.

How parents can support development:

Students should be able to explain to parents the work they have done in the lessons and so regular questioning about their work in Science is beneficial.

Other information:

BBC bitesize key stage 3 will support students in deepening their understanding of key scientific concepts that have been covered in lessons.

Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

All homework will be testing technical knowledge so as to review learning and improve exam performance. This will be exam style questions or theory worksheets.

How it will support and build on class work:

Science teachers set their groups appropriate homework to extend learning, revise skills, improve exam technique or encourage problem solving.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Exam questions/technical worksheet will be 30 minutes in length and set weekly.

How parents can support development:

Parents should ensure that they are familiar with this material and should ask students to show them their exam materials. Students should be able to explain to parents the work they have done and so regular questioning about their work in Science is always beneficial.

Other information:

The course is supported by BBC bitesize and revision guides are available to purchase from the science department.

Technology

Key Stage 3

Likely nature of homework tasks:

Design process based – research / production of ideas. Processes used and evaluations of practice / outcome

How it will support and build on class work:

It will allow for individualised input into project to improve standard of outcome. It consolidates theory and practice from the classroom.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

This will depend on the stage of the project and topic area. It is not possible to predict with accuracy when this will be issued however, it is possible to place the homeworks as part of the scheme of work i.e. 'at this point, homework will be...'

How parents can support development:

To read the Design Brief with the pupil and to help direct them to resources which will inspire and inform their responses towards their outcomes. To facilitate access to information and discussion with the pupil to focus their thoughts – particularly with regard to consumer related thinking / rights

Other information:

Key Stage 4

Likely nature of homework tasks:

Skills and knowledge based exercises which demand pupils to research and expand on knowledge gained in the classroom. This will take the form of research / information gathering to augment, investigate and record concepts related to the D&T courses.

How it will support and build on class work:

It will build a strong knowledge base for the pupils to better equip themselves to answer the demands of the practical elements of the course and the exam based questions.

Likely frequency of homework and time to be spent:

Dependent on the stage of the course the students are at, the likely frequency is weekly and for approximately 1-2 hours.

How parents can support development:

To read the Design Brief with the pupil and to help direct them to resources which will inspire and inform their responses towards their outcomes. To facilitate access to information and discussion with the pupil to focus their thoughts – particularly with regard to consumer related thinking / rights

Other information:
