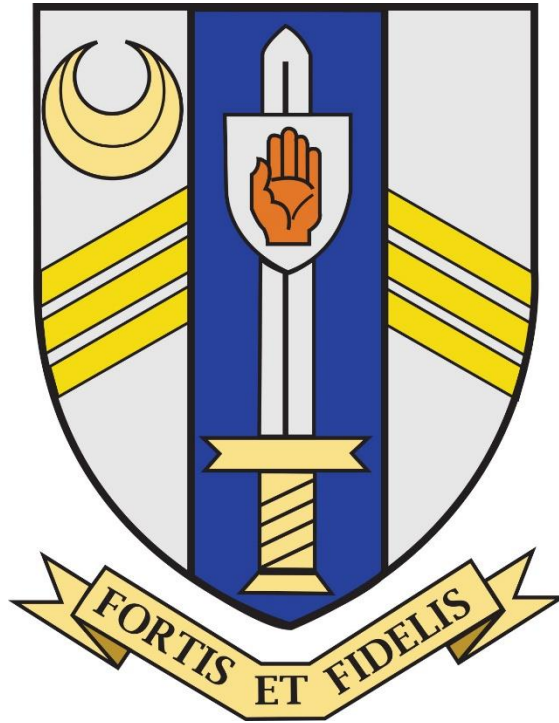


# Sir John Nelthorpe School



## Homework Policy

Author	Mrs R Peck
Last reviewed	Spring Term 2024
Next review date	Spring Term 2025
Consultations/Training	All staff

## **Homework Policy**

### **(1) Years 7-11**

Homework should be set not for its own sake but to aid the learning process. It should serve one of the following functions:

- to consolidate and build on classwork by means of extension exercises, practice tasks or revision;
- to cover new material by research, note-taking or guided learning from books and other appropriate sources;
- to develop habits of personal organisation and independent learning;
- to develop skills, both those of general academic benefit and specific to examination demands;
- to extend the range of available resources e.g. using books and information at home and in libraries, and asking other people;
- to provide parents with an insight into their child's learning, reaffirming their role as partners and strengthening home-school links.

### **Nature of tasks**

A wide range of tasks may be given depending on the subject being studied, but all homework, with the exception of art and design technology, should normally contain a substantial written element.

Tasks set may include:

- Collection and presentation of information
- Learning and revising (with a written component)
- Extension of classwork activities
- Problem solving
- Reading set texts.

### **Frequency and Amount**

- Pupils from Y7 to Y11 will have their own printed homework timetable displayed in their planners
- Pupils will normally be given one piece of homework per subject per week, with the exception of two per week in the core subjects, Maths, English and Science.

- In Years 7-9, homework should be set for submission at the next appropriate lesson. Extended homework may be set for occasional projects and more frequently in subjects such as art or technology but for the majority of subjects this should be the exception as younger pupils find this kind of work more difficult to manage.
- It is impossible to specify precisely how long pupils should spend on their homework but remember that excessive homework is usually counter-productive. As a guide each homework subject is expected to take pupils 20 minutes in Year 7, 30 minutes in Years 8 and 9 and 1 hour in Years 10 and 11.
- Under normal circumstances, it is not appropriate to set homework overnight. There are occasions when lessons are on consecutive days and, therefore, the teacher have to set homework overnight. In these circumstances, the teacher must make it clear that if a pupil cannot find the time to complete the work overnight, then their parent can write a note in their planner and an extension will be agreed. In any case, it should be noted that completing work overnight, such as learning vocabulary does not encourage good learning habits or support pupils' long-term knowledge acquisition.
- If a task is taking significantly longer than the allotted time then pupils should give feedback to the teacher. Parents should write a note in the pupil's planner if they have decided that the task is taking too long and cannot be completed by the deadline. Head of Faculty/Learning Co-ordinators should be informed if this becomes a regular occurrence.
- Be aware of family or other circumstances which may require a degree of flexibility in submission.
- All staff must set homework on a regular basis.

### **Administration and monitoring of homework**

- In Years 7-11 pupils will record all homework set in pupil planners. These should be signed by parents weekly and should be checked on a regular basis by form tutors. Learning Coordinators/Members of the Senior Leadership Team will check pupils' planners as part of the monitoring of pupils' exercise books/work.
- Where homework has not reached the required standard, pupils may be asked to re-present it. Non-production of homework will be recorded by subject teachers and the subject teacher will apply the follow-up procedures contained in the Behaviour , Rewards and Sanctions Policy.

- Genuine difficulties will be addressed initially by subject teachers. All communications received from parents regarding homework should be passed to the relevant teacher(s) and Head of Faculty.
- If a pupil planner is lost, defaced or damaged, the pupil/parent is expected to pay for a new one.

### **Parental involvement**

- Parental support is vital for pupil progress and it is important that school and parents work together to achieve the optimum result for the individual child.
- We recognise that it is important to have a balance in life and that time spent visiting places of interest, taking part in sport, talking, exploring ideas and having fun together all enhance learning. As a result we are keen to achieve a balance between homework and free time and parents have the prerogative to call a halt when they feel their child has done enough homework on any given night. By teachers allowing pupils more than one evening to complete homework it should still be possible for pupils to meet deadlines given if work is spread out throughout the week.

## **(2) Years 12-13**

This policy contains the principles upon which assessment and marking of students' work in all subjects should be based. Heads of Faculty are responsible for ensuring that these policies are implemented.

### **(i) Homework**

#### **Purpose**

Homework is an essential and valuable aspect of students' learning. It should serve the following functions:

- to consolidate and build on classwork by means of extension exercises, practice tasks or revision;
- to cover new material by research, note-taking or guided learning from books and other appropriate sources;
- to develop skills, both of general academic benefit and specific to examination demands;
- to encourage independent learning;
- to facilitate differentiation, including extension tasks for the more able;
- to test attainment levels of students.

### **Frequency and Amount**

Homework should be set regularly. It should generally amount to about 4 hours per subject per week.

### **Administration and Monitoring of Homework Sixth Form**

- In the Sixth Form students will be required to take more personal responsibility for the recording and organisation of their homework.
- The VI Form Progress co-ordinator will assist students in organising their weekly study programmes and will monitor them regularly.
- Non-production of homework will be reported by subject teachers. In the first instance discussions will be with the student, for repeated missing work it is expected that parents are contacted. Persistent failure to complete homework will be reported to the Director of Sixth Form who can take further action to ensure that homework is completed.

### **Relationships with other School Policies**

Behaviour, Rewards and Sanctions Policy

Curriculum Policy

Schemes of Work Policy

### **Monitoring and review**

The Governing Body, supported by the Head Teacher will review the policy annually.

Heads of Faculty along with class teachers will review schemes of work and ensure that there are adequate opportunities for homework to be set and provide challenge to pupils.