



Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

Policy applies from EYFS to Sixth Form	Homework
Date policy updated	23.03.2021
Date policy to be reviewed	03.09.2021
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A shaded area denotes a regulation to which all schools must comply	

Clifton High School is committed to child protection and safeguarding children and young people and expects all staff, visitors and volunteers to share this commitment.

Related Policies

Curriculum

Marking

Teaching and Learning

Homework is an integral part of the learning process for all pupils at Clifton High School but it is only of value if it is within the framework of a learning environment as set out in the Teaching and Learning Policy. Homework is set to increase and reinforce knowledge, to prepare pupils for subsequent learning, to develop study skills, to expand pupil knowledge with a view to stretching particularly able pupils or any combination of these. Homework should grow out of lessons and should have a purpose which is clearly understood by the pupils.

Aims

- To aid each pupil's progress towards achieving their full potential with the assistance, support and cooperation of parents
- Assist pupil learning
- Give feedback to pupils
- Indicate to pupils that their work has value
- Improve effectiveness of teaching, knowledge and skills

Objectives

To provide

- An enjoyable opportunity for all pupils to practise what has been learned in class, including the development of the basic skills e.g. times tables, spellings, independent research skills etc. Or to prepare for future learning by creating a foundation of knowledge or completing a flipped classroom activity. Or to stretch pupils beyond their learning in the classroom
- A practical opportunity for parents to become involved in the academic development of their child
- A practical opportunity for pupils to begin to take responsibility for organising their own workload and meeting deadlines

The success of the Homework Policy will be monitored by Senior Leadership, through departmental and staff meetings to gain the teachers' perspectives.

Nursery – Year 6 (please refer to Appendices A – D for fuller details)

Homework is not necessarily written work. It is any task that a pupil is asked to complete at home. It may consist of reading, learning by heart and reinforcement of classwork, research and project work or further practice of skills learnt in class. Reading homework is given throughout the Junior School. Children should read aloud, to an adult, as directed by their teacher. “Free Reader” children should continue to read at home and develop the skill of silent reading. An adult should show an interest in the book and converse about its content. Good school practice requires that the developmental needs of the child are recognised. At Clifton High School, the value of extra-curricular activities is appreciated, (for example sport, music, dancing, drama, the uniformed groups, other hobbies, etc.), and in setting homework space is allowed for these. As with all other matters relating to pupils, teachers are available to discuss homework with parents.

Specialist teachers of Junior School pupils for example in Languages and Science should set a minimum of one homework task a half term. This needs to be shared with the classes form tutor in advance so that it can be shared with parents along with all the other homework set that week.

Senior School (please refer to Appendix E)

- Pupils in Year 7 – 11 are given a homework timetable at the beginning of the academic year, designating which days homework should be set for each subject and the time that each piece should take
- Sixth Form students are set homework, at times and at the discretion of their teachers, as follows: Year 12 – 4 hours per subject per week; Year 13 – 6 hours per subject per week; Standalone AS level – 2 hours per week
- The task set for homework should be set towards the start of the lesson and recorded by the pupil in their homework diary. Parents are asked to monitor the amount of time spent on homework. If they believe homework is excessive they should inform their child’s form tutor who will investigate any problems in conjunction with the subject teacher
- The homework tasks should be varied so as to appeal to different pupils and their learning strengths and to maintain interest. Depending on the exact nature of the subject tasks will differ but all should be of a high quality
- Homework is consistently set on the days specified on the Homework timetable and is marked regularly, in accordance with the Marking Policy and returned promptly
- A record of marks is kept by the subject teacher
- Every attempt is made by the teacher to ensure that homework is pitched so as to be achievable but to also present pupils with some form of challenge. The amount of homework set is appropriate to the allotted time. Tutors/subject teachers will help pupils to manage extended pieces of work and meet deadlines. Larger projects for Year 7 – 10 pupils should span a maximum of three weeks and be broken down into segments with different instructions recorded in the pupils’ planners each week.
- Parents will be contacted if pupils consistently fail to manage taking responsibility for their own learning
- Pupils failing to submit homework on time or to an adequate quality will be issued with a behaviour point and possibly a departmental detention

Expectations of Staff

- Ensure pupils have a clear understanding of the tasks involved and a common understanding of the high expectations according to their ability
- Set homework on the days and frequency listed on the homework timetable
- Provide a range of homework tasks and activities to consolidate learning in class, prepare pupils for future learning or stretch pupils beyond the curriculum. Give a clear indication each week as to what the tasks are. In Years 3 – 6 this is provided in a homework folder or book
- Mark homework tasks promptly and provide appropriate feedback to pupils
- Individual pupil targets must be set
- Inform parents if there are concerns over their child’s homework

Expectations of Pupils

- Tackle home tasks promptly and with a positive attitude
- Take pride in presentation and content
- Be organised so that all necessary books and equipment are not left at school or at home
- Take responsibility for handing in the completed task on the agreed day or to be ready for a test, such as language vocabulary spellings or multiplication times tables

Expectations of Parents

- Provide suitable quiet surroundings (for example, not in front of the television)
- Encourage their child to persevere with a task even if it seems daunting at first
- Give due importance to non-written tasks such as listening to their children reading and assisting in the learning of times tables and weekly spellings or maths games online
- Keep staff informed of any changes in the child's circumstances which may affect their learning, using the homework diary or email the relevant class or subject teacher

Appendix A: Nursery – Year 2 Activities to do at Home

Curriculum Year	Activities and Homework
Nursery	None
Reception	Reading every night. Phonics for sound practice. Weekly spellings from the Spring Term onwards
Year 1	Reading every night. Weekly spellings
Year 2	Reading every night. Weekly spellings Weekly Mathematics in the Summer Term

Appendix B: Year 1 – 2 Holiday Homework

Homework will not be set during holiday periods with the following exceptions

- Some pupils may be offered additional reading books, handwriting books, Mathematics, English or phonics holiday homework. This will be at the discretion of the child's class teacher.

Appendix C: Year 3 – 6 Example of Homework Allocation

Curriculum Year	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 3	Mathematics	English	Reading	Spelling	Times Tables
Year 4	Mathematics	English	Reading	Spelling	Theme
Year 5	Mathematics	Comprehension	Mathematics	Spelling	Theme
Year 6	Mathematics	Comprehension	Mathematics	Spelling	Theme

Appendix D: Year 3 – 6 Holiday Homework

Homework will not be set during holiday periods with the following exceptions

- Year 6 will have homework during the Autumn Term half term and Christmas holidays. This is to enable them to be well prepared for the School entrance examination in January
- Optional homework can be suggested on occasions (for example, a holiday diary)
- Individual pupils for whom holiday homework is deemed to be beneficial and/or necessary to enhance their learning in areas requiring development

Appendix E: Length of each piece of Homework in the Senior School

Curriculum Year	Approximate length of each piece of homework
Year 7	30 minutes *
Year 8	35 minutes *
Year 9	40 minutes *
Year 10	50 minutes *
Year 11	60 minutes *
Year 12	4 hours per subject per week
Year 13	6 hours per subject per week
Year 12 and 13 standalone AS	2 hours per subject per week

*Pupils in Year 7 – 11 should receive an extra, short, piece of homework each week for Mathematics and English.