

English Faculty Homework/Independent Learning Policy

Subjects Covered: English, English Literature, Media Studies

The rationale behind the setting of English homework and independent learning is to give pupils the opportunity to develop and take ownership of their learning to promote progress in reading, writing and speaking.

KS3 – Independent Learning/Homework

Across the key stage the English Faculty allows all the students the opportunity to carry out Independent Learning Tasks or Learning at Home Projects alongside the more traditional weekly homework. The tasks take the place of traditional homework and focuses more on a long-term project resulting in an extended piece of work that could take the form of a piece of creative writing, a model based on a key text or a drama performance. Students choose the project based on their school target and manage the task over the half term in consultation with their class teacher. Along with the periodic homework this allows for deeper exploration of topics and promotes the independent learning the school believes is the next step to being outstanding.

Overview:

Periodic homework set in line with the whole school homework policy.
Merits awarded for outstanding effort or attainment.
Sanctions enforced if homework not completed .e.g. Detention at break.

Library Lessons

As part of the KS3 curriculum in English all pupils have a library lesson to develop their love of reading for pleasure and expand the range of texts they have access to. The expectation is that all pupils have a library book out every fortnight and as part of the homework structures read for at least 30 minutes each week and make a record of their reading in their reading journal. There is also the opportunity for parents to make a note of what or how their child had been reading over the two weeks and to sign that the homework has been completed.

Overview:

Periodic homework set in line with the whole school homework policy.
Merits awarded for outstanding effort or attainment.
Sanctions enforced if homework not completed .e.g. Detention at break.

KS4 – Independent Learning/Homework

In KS4 the emphasis on the importance of homework – especially the need to revise topics across the year - and amount of work given increase to reflect the challenging nature of undertaking two compulsory GCSE courses – English Language and English Literature and the option Media Studies. Pupils will be given weekly homework – incorporating reading of core texts, wider independent reading, research, essay writing and other key skills they will need to succeed in the exams at the end of Year 11.

Overview:

Periodic homework set in line with the whole school homework policy.
Merits awarded for outstanding effort or attainment.
Sanctions enforced if homework not completed .e.g. Detention at break.

KS5 – Independent Learning/Homework

When pupils enter into the Sixth form they are expected to complete a substantial amount of independent learning – be it set by their classroom teacher or of their own volition – in order to develop their subject knowledge and broaden their understanding of the topics being studied.

Overview:

Periodic homework set in line with the whole school homework policy.
Merits awarded for outstanding effort or attainment.
Sanctions enforced if homework not completed .e.g. Detention at break.