

HOMEWORK POLICY

Philosophy

We believe that homework is an important element in the learning and assessment cycle. Assignments should consolidate or extend lesson based learning and not merely serve to keep students busy. Homework should not become a burden to students, staff or parents. Instead it should be seen as a useful tool for promoting learning and thinking beyond the classroom.

Aims

Homework assignments should:

- promote independent learning at home
- Promote group learning outside the classroom
- Be relevant to current work and practice or challenge students to explore new topics
- Provide each student with an appropriate level of challenge
- Develop independent thought and learning skills
- Help students to consolidate the learning that has taken place in class
- Extend the learning that has taken place in class
- Prepare students for the learning that will take place in future lessons
- Assist in developing the educational partnership between parent and child.

We will achieve our aims by:

- Each year group will receive at least one, pre-planned, homework per subject every three weeks.
- Each assignment will take 1 ½ - 2 hours to complete.
- Homework assignments will cover a wide variety of tasks: reading, writing, research, memorising, correcting, listening to tapes, watching television programmes, collecting information, preparing a physical performance, preparing a speech etc.
- Faculties will select homework assignments carefully to ensure that they:
 - Consolidate important factual knowledge
 - Allow students to practise subject skills in a new context
 - Consolidate and/or extend conceptual thinking – Promote deep learning and thinking skills
- Students will be provided with homework booklets which set out the homework assignments for each term.

- Teachers will keep a record of all homework assessments and share their feedback with students
- Students will use their planners to keep a diary of all homework set.
- Tutors will check homework planners once per week.
- Tutor interviews with students will include a discussion about the use of the planner and progress toward student targets when appropriate.
- Parents are encouraged to support their children whenever possible by providing a suitable environment at home in which to work, by checking and signing homework diary entries, and by monitoring the quality of homework produced by their children.
- Parents will be informed of any uncompleted homework assignments
- Homework deadlines will not be extended beyond the original due date
- Students' books / folders will be checked every three weeks with feedback comments written in to help students to improve

Success Criteria

- Homework is perceived by students and parents as a relevant extension to school based learning.
- The setting, completion and assessment of homework assignments is sustainable by both students and staff
- Students complete homework to the best of their ability and enjoy the assignments.
- Staff keep accurate records of homework assessments.
- Homework booklets are well-used by students
- Parents report that they are happy with the frequency of homework, and the quality of assessment feedback
- Students' books/folders are regularly marked and contain useful assessment feedback comments which help students to improve their work.

Approved by Governing Body of Ashcroft High School:	July 2017
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Governors' Committee:	Curriculum, Students and Personnel
SLT staff responsible:	Ms M Austin
Statutory Policy: Yes / No	Yes