



Sandbach High School

and Sixth Form College

Our Academy, Our Future

Homework Policy

1. Homework will be set wherever possible on a regular basis. There is no question of the fact that, given proper attention, most students derive great benefit from doing work on their own.
2. "Whenever possible" takes into account the fact that there are in the school students whose academic level of achievement is so limited, or whose home circumstances are so disadvantaged, that problems will arise. Some students [a few] may not be capable of written work on their own, or may need the kind of help which can only be given at school. For others, the act of taking books home may bring open antagonism from other members of the family. Such cases are likely to be rare, but they call for all the professional expertise the teacher has at his or her disposal. Encouragement, patience, tact are the operative words.
3. Teachers should endeavour to create the situation where homework is done willingly and as a matter of course by all students. Reports should be given to the Curriculum Leader about students who are failing to complete set work. Where necessary, the help of the Form Teacher or the Achievement Co-ordinator may be sought. It will often be advisable to enlist the co-operation of the parent.
4. A register of all homework set will be kept by each member of staff in his or her record book. Homework is also to be set by the teacher using G8Way3 so parents can see the work to be completed.
5. Twenty to thirty minutes per subject is thought to be a reasonable requirement for students in Years 7 & 8, the total time per evening not to exceed one and a half hours. Over the next three years this amount should gradually be increased to about 15 hours per week for students in Year 11. Sixth Formers work according to their individual needs.
6. During the first weeks of the Autumn Term Achievement Co-ordinators arrange a satisfactory timetable of homework for all students in KS3. This is done by negotiation and Subject Teachers are asked to abide by the timetables arranged. All homework timetables should be in operation not later than the beginning of the third week of the Autumn Term.
7. Achievement Co-ordinators discuss timetables with Form Teachers to ensure an even distribution of work.
8. It is not expected that all forms within a year group will do the same subjects for homework on the same evening. It is, however, essential that Curriculum Leaders ensure that their Subject Teachers give classes which are comparable in age ability the same number of homeworks each week and that, where practicable, the homework is of a similar type and pattern, e.g. one written and one learning homework. Curriculum Leaders should ensure that subject teachers set relevant and useful work with the emphasis being on quality not quantity.
9. The Student Planner and G8Way3 provides the school with a vital link between home and school. Both will contain details of all homework given to students and thereby allows

parents to become personally involved in the education of their children. The keeping of a neat and detailed Student Planner is an integral part of our students' education. It teaches them skills of organisation and self-discipline.

The Form Teachers for all students in Years 7 - 11 must ensure that each Student Planner is checked and signed every fortnight.

Space is provided in the Planner for parents and teachers to comment and any matters raised must be dealt with immediately by the Form Teacher or passed on to the Achievement Co-ordinator where appropriate.

Years 7 and 8 each homework should last about 20 - 30 minutes, total time approximately 1½ hour per evening.

Year 9 each homework should last about 30 - 40 minutes, total time approximately 1½ - 2 hours per evening.

Year 10 and 11 homework will vary owing to the nature of the GCSE courses, but should be approximately 2 hours per evening.

A minimum of 2 days should be allowed for students to complete homework.

Parents can 'sign off' homework if their daughter has worked on it constantly for over 20 - 30 minutes (Years 7-9).

For KS3 English, Maths, Science and MFL to set homework once a week. Technology, Geography, History, RS, ICT, Art, Music, Drama to set homework once a fortnight.