

Independent Study (Homework) Policy	2 f
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Responsible for Initiating Review of Policy	Assistant Head Academics
Committee to Review	SLT
Last Review Date	August 2022
Review Period	2 years
Approved by (Committee and Date)	SLT August 2022
Effective Date of Policy	September 2022
Next Review Date	August 2024
Related Policies	

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It is the ethos of the school that homework should not prevent pupils from participating in a full range of co-curricular activities, which they can pursue in the afternoons, evenings or at the weekend. Homework is not set over half term holidays for Years 7-10. Homework may be set over the longer holidays, especially in Years 10, 11 and Sixth Form.

Year 7 do not have any homework in the first half of the autumn term. In the second half, they have homework only in English, Maths and the sciences. Independent Academic Challenge Tasks (IACTs) are provided by academic departments to allow Year 7 students to undertake stretch and challenge opportunities they wish to. Copies are kept in the LRC and on Google Classroom. Year 7 Form Tutors hold the overview of their tutees co-curricular programme and will encourage girls to undertake an Independent Academic Challenge Tasks where relevant and appropriate.

The Assistant Head Academic and Pastoral Heads undertake an annual review of the existing policy with respect to homework.

HOMEWORK TIMETABLE

SUBJECT	YEAR 7 (time in mins)	YEAR 8 (time in mins)	YEAR 9 (time in mins)
English	40	40	60
Mathematics	40	40	60
Biology	40	20	40
Chemistry		20	40
Physics		20	40
French	30	30	40 minutes per option subject
German/Spanish	15 + 15	30	
Latin	30	30	
History	30	30	
Geography	30	30	
RS	30	30	
Computing	30	30	
DT	No homework but must attend catch up session following an absence, in order	30	

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	to complete practical work.		
Drama	One homework per half term of no more than 60 mins		
Total	5.5 hours	6 hours	6 hours 40 mins for a 9 GCSE programme
Instrumentalists should practise for 30 minutes daily.			

The above times are approximate as people work at different rates. No pupil should, however, be spending an excessive amount of time on homework on a regular basis. Please let the form tutor know if this is the case. Subject teachers should not feel obliged to set homework if it is not academically advantageous or necessary to do so. They are encouraged to use their professional judgement and exercise discretion. The Assistant Head Academic produces the homework timetable for Years 7 and 8.

Year 9

The lead tutor for Year 9 confirms the homework timetable at the beginning of the academic year. Teachers must give a reasonable time by which it is to be completed. Homework does not have to be completed on the day it is set.

Years 10/11

A target of 1 hour per subject, per week is expected. As the average number of subjects taken is 9, this amounts to a total of 9 hours per week.

Sixth Form

A student who is studying a programme of 3 A levels and an EPQ in the Sixth Form will have 31 timetabled lessons, giving a total of just over 20 hours a week of tuition time. This includes the PALS and PE programmes. They will have a minimum of 12 study periods. Students may expect to spend a minimum of 5 hours in preparation and private study for each subject, and an additional portion of time on their EPQ.

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A student who is studying a programme of 4 A levels in the Sixth Form will have 39 timetabled lessons, giving a total of 26 hours a week of tuition time. This includes the PALS and PE programmes. They will have a minimum of 6 study periods. Students may expect to spend a minimum of 5 hours in preparation and private study for each subject.

Lower Sixth students also take the opportunity to be actively involved in the management of whole school activities such as Create magazine and Inter-house Performing Arts. Some Upper Sixth students will carry out additional responsibilities such as those associated with being a School Officer.