

Independent Study (Homework) Policy	2 f
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Responsible for Initiating Review of Policy	Assistant Head Academic
Committee to Review	SLT
Last Review Date	August 2026
Review Period	2 years
Approved by (Committee and Date)	SLT August 2026
Effective Date of Policy	August 2026
Next Review Date	August 2028
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.

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

Students will be set homework daily, following the published homework timetable. Each task should take approximately 30–40 minutes in Years 7–9 and around one hour in Years 10–11. Additional guidance will be provided for revision and assessment preparation when required. For Years 10 and 11, we also recommend that students spend extra time reviewing new content after each lesson to strengthen their understanding and support long-term progress.

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.

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 PSHE 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.

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 PSHE 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.



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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.