

The Hartismere School

POLICY DOCUMENT No TL7

HOMework POLICY



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1. How the School Views Homework

1. The school values the work pupils do at home. It provides an opportunity for pupils to work independently, to research, to carry out specific tasks and to complete work started in class. It is also valuable to "read round" a topic and extend the class work done.

2. Homework is not a mere time-filler but a valuable and integral part of the programmes of study being undertaken.

3. A timetable will be produced for lower school pupils which will show the allocation of homework for lessons. There will be some flexibility to ensure that in a subject which has two lessons per week, the homework could be set on either lesson.

4. *Homework will not normally be required for the following day.* There are, however, occasions when work will need to be completed before the next stage can be taught, and it will be necessary for pupils to complete this work on the evening it is set.

5. As a general guide:

- Years 7 - 9 can expect 5-7 hours homework per week
- Years 10 – 11 can expect 10 hours homework per week.

6. Information will be given to parents and pupils regarding homework.

7. Staff are asked to ensure that adequate time is given for pupils to write down homework details. If this is left to the very end of the lesson insufficient time often leads to inadequate details of what is required being written in the Student Diary.

8. Homework should be entered in the Student Diary.

9. Parents will be invited to comment on questionnaires, which are regularly sent to parents, about the frequency of homework.

10. The library/computer room will be available – and usually staffed- to assist those wishing to work after school in the library on homework or other work. This is provided as part of our Extended School provision.

2. What we ask pupils to do

1. To make sure that they copy accurately the homework details and note the date the work is due to be handed in.
2. To do their best with each piece of work.
3. If some of the homework seems too difficult, to try to obtain help – from a teacher or parent – before the Homework is due.
4. Failure to complete homework on time is likely to result in detention and/or extra work or an imposition being set. If this happens more than very occasionally your parents will be informed and a homework report may be issued.

3. What we ask Parents to do

1. To check the homework details are entered properly in the Student Diary. There is a space for a regular parental signature.
2. To help each child to organize his or her time to best advantage so that homework is not left to the last minute or even forgotten. It is often best, however, to give children a short period to 'unwind' after school before they start their homework.
3. Try to provide suitable working conditions at home if possible.
4. To take an active interest in their child's work at home rather than just insisting that it is done. This sustained, active interest can make a huge difference to the quality of work produced and the attitude towards homework.
5. To give help if required, but not to do the work for the child.
6. *Not to let the child do too much or get upset about a piece of work he or she is finding difficult.* To use good judgment as to when to intervene and say that it's time to stop working on a piece of homework. Then, to make a note in the Student Diary.
7. To let the School know if there is a problem with homework. If there is too much, too little or if it is all coming at once. Since we all want what is best for the children the School will be glad to address any issues which arise.