

# David Nieper Education Trust



## Homework Policy

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This policy was originated by Richard White

### Version Control

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<b>Version 2</b>	<b>Approved Autumn 2021</b>

Signed:	Date:

**Due for review Autumn 2023**

# Homework policy

## **Aim:**

The purpose of homework is to support the teaching and learning that occurs in lessons and therefore increase the progress of our pupils. Furthermore, homework should provide the opportunity for pupils to develop their core skills in working independently, showing resilience and personal organization. Additionally, by planning homework activities that are challenging and creative, homework can inspire our pupils' imaginations and help them to develop a lifelong love of learning.

## **Responsibilities:**

### Teacher:

It is the responsibility of the teacher to ensure that appropriate high-quality homework is set for the pupils that they teach. Instructions for homework must be shared during the lesson, and time must be provided for pupils to record this in their planners. Additionally, teachers will also record the homework on Show My Homework.

Teachers need to ensure that a reasonable length of time is provided for pupils to complete a homework task. Setting a homework task that needs to be submitted the following day is not appropriate. Likewise, the teacher needs to provide any resources needed to complete the homework. If the homework requires pupils to access IT, teachers either need to provide a hard copy version for those pupils who cannot access the resources at home, or ensure that sufficient time is given for pupils to access IT through the school library or homework club.

Teachers must also ensure that pupils receive appropriate feedback on their homework. This could be written or verbal feedback from the teacher, whole class feedback or the use of peer or self-assessment.

When homework is not submitted on time, the teacher is responsible for recording a H2 or H3 as appropriate (see homework rewards and sanctions).

### Tutors:

By accessing Show My Homework, tutors can support pupils with their homework during tutor period by reminding them of deadlines, helping them to prioritise tasks based upon deadlines and directing them towards resources that will help them.

Additionally, by monitoring the H2's and H3's (see homework rewards and sanctions), tutors are able to support members of their form who are struggling to meet deadlines on a regular basis. It is the responsibility of the tutor to inform pupils when they have a homework detention.

### Middle leaders:

Heads of faculty need to ensure that high quality homework is built into the schemes of work for their subject areas. Show My Homework allows heads of faculty to monitor the setting of homework and ensure that all teachers within their teams are setting homework on a regular basis. Through work scrutiny, heads of faculty can evaluate the effectiveness of specific homework and adapt these as necessary.

Progress and Achievement Leaders monitor and provide intervention for pupils who are failing to complete homework across a range of subjects.

### Senior leaders:

Senior leaders ensure that teachers receive appropriate training and support in the use of Show My Homework and the planning of appropriate high-quality homework. Senior leaders are responsible for leading strategic reviews into the quality and effectiveness of homework as they seek to drive continual improvement.

### Pupils:

Pupils are responsible for recording homework in their planners. This needs to include sufficient detail to allow them to successfully complete the task and the date that it needs to be submitted. Pupils should also use Show My Homework to help themselves with organisation and meeting deadlines.

Clearly pupils are responsible for completing homework to the best of their ability and submitting it on time. If pupils do not understand a piece of homework, they need to seek help from a teacher before the submission date.

### Parents and carers:

Parents and carers are provided PINs for Show My Homework so that they can easily see the homework that is being set for their children. Parents and carers are not responsible for ensuring that pupils complete their homework, however, the school recognises that parental support is a key factor in helping pupils with organisation, meeting deadlines and completing homework to the best of their ability. Parents and carers who are unable to access Show My Homework are encouraged to regularly monitor the homework that their children are recording in the homework planner.

## **Quality of homework**

All homework that is set needs to be high quality and appropriate to the needs and ability of the pupils it is set for. Consequently, it may not be appropriate for the same piece of homework to be set for all pupils in a class. As with all aspects of teaching and learning, the SEND of pupils need to be considered when deciding whether or not a homework task is appropriate or whether it needs to be amended or replaced.

Examples of effective homework activities may include:

- Highly structured revision
- Practice questions related to an activity in lesson
- A piece of extended writing
- Research into a specific area or topic
- Project based activities with clear instructions and guidelines

In most cases, completion of tasks from lessons is not an appropriate homework activity as it often means that faster workers or more able pupils receive less homework.

### **Quantity of homework**

According to the EEF, the optimum amount of homework is between one and two hours per school day. Therefore, at Key Stage 3 homework tasks should take up to 30 minutes to complete and at Key Stage 4 this should be up to one hour.

Typically, at Key Stage 3, core subjects should set one piece of homework per week and non-core subjects should set one piece per fortnight. At Key Stage 4, each subject should set one piece of homework per week. However, it is important that homework is not set for the sake of it, so homework should only be set if it is appropriate and will support the learning in class.

### **Homework rewards and sanctions**

As with any piece of work, teachers must award praise and encouragement to all pupils who complete their homework. Pupils who demonstrate extra effort or produce outstanding pieces of homework can be awarded with an R5 achievement point.

R5's are monitored each half-term by Progress and Achievement Leaders, and this is recognised through the rewards assembly.

Pupils who do not complete or submit homework are sanctioned. If a pupil fails to submit a piece of homework, the teacher records a H2 and sets a new appropriate deadline for submission. If the pupil fails to meet this deadline, the teacher records a H3 and the pupil receives a 30-minute lunchtime detention where they complete the homework task.