



**Current policy – to be revised pending investigation into ‘Google classrooms’, currently being undertaken**

## **Upper Shirley High: Homework Policy**

### **Section 1: Introduction**

The purpose of this policy is to provide the whole school community with the vision of how homework supports Teaching and Learning at Upper Shirley High to promote excellent achievement for all.

Our school is an educational community in which all members share a common commitment. We believe our school has an environment where all individuals are challenged to achieve; where we are distinguished as leaders of learning and the passion of our people transforms futures.

In our community, we learn how to think reflectively, critically and creatively to share and shape a meaningful curriculum. As a result, we will all feel truly connected to the learning experience; will be the best we can be; and be inspired to be a life-long learner.

It has been shown that effective homework will increase a student’s achievement by a whole level or grade over their time in education. Using the principle of “little and often”, our homework timetable integrates traditional knowledge based homework with creative practical projects, research and afterschool enrichment opportunities. To encourage independence, some subjects offer ‘takeaway menu’ homework options, where students can select their preferred learning style from a range of activities. All homework aims to deepen students understanding of the learning in their lessons and explore concepts which are important to their subjects.

### **Section 2: Procedures and practice**

Homework enables students to:

- Take responsibility for their learning through review and practice of what has been covered in class
- Improve their thinking and memory
- Develop positive study skills, learning habits and time management
- Learn how to use resources, such as libraries, reference materials, and computer websites to find information
- Explore subject knowledge more broadly than classroom time permits and to enrich learning by applying skills and knowledge to new situations

## **Roles and responsibilities:**

Teachers will:

- *Ensure that homework is relevant, achievable and challenging to all student abilities*
- *Check that homework has been shared with the class during lesson time and that a suitable deadline has been set for its submission*
- *Mark homework in good time and ensure that they record a grade of 1-4 on SIMS (in line with the ATL's) after each piece has been submitted*

Subject Leaders will:

- Ensure that homework set by their teams is relevant, achievable and challenging to students of all abilities
- Ensure that homework is updated on Pool every half term and that the correct homework appears on the school website
- Monitor that homework is being set and marked regularly; in line with the school's policy, by all members of their team

Students will:

- Take pride in the quality of their work and strive for accuracy wherever possible
- Grasp the opportunity to apply past knowledge to their work and be creative, imaginative and innovative in its presentation
- Ensure that they meet the deadlines set by their class teacher
- Speak to their class teacher if they are having difficulties with any aspect of their homework
- Speak to their tutor if they are having any difficulties with accessing the school website
- Have the opportunity to attend homework club on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday in the school library from 2.45pm – 3.45pm

Tutors will:

- Ensure they have a continued shared dialogue with their tutor group regarding homework
- Access the homework area of the school website on at least a weekly basis in tutor time, to ensure students understand which homework is due in, and when

Parents are responsible for supporting their children with homework to:

- learn more about what their child is learning in school
- spark their child's enthusiasm with the learning and to broaden their understanding through the parents own knowledge of the subject
- communicate with the school any difficulties their child is having with the task

Parents can support their child by:

- Checking the school website for homework tasks and due dates
- Assisting them with time management in terms of meeting deadlines, spending the guided time in completing the work and to persist with challenging work

- Providing a quiet space to complete homework
- Checking the presentation and content of your child's homework and helping them with spelling, punctuation and grammar
- Praising your child when deadlines are met and when work clearly shows pride

### The amount of homework

The school has a main homework timetable which identifies the subject and a guide of how much time should be spent on the work. Please note that the timetable indicates the minimum amount of homework that will be set.

- Upper Shirley High encourages internet based resources and currently subscribes to:
- SamLearning
- MyMaths
- Moodle

These are accessible via the school website and are free to students.

### **Handing homework in:**

Students will be rewarded for their independent study through:

- Celebration within the class by the teacher
- The school rewards system which could include rewards points, letters home, phone calls and announcements in the news letter
- Work put on display

### **Monitoring and Evaluation:**

The Local Governing Body will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of this policy alongside the Assistant Headteacher with shared oversight for Teaching and Learning. The quality of homework will be reported to the Governing Body once a term.

### **Section 3: Concluding notes**

#### **Other linked documents**

- **Teaching and Learning policy**
- **Monitoring Evaluation and Review policy**
- **Teaching and Learning action plan as part of the Whole School Development Plan**
- **ZPD resources**