

HOME LEARNING POLICY

Home Learning is an essential part of the curriculum at The Petersfield School. Home Learning develops good work habits, encourages independent study and helps create a culture of learning beyond the classroom.

The purpose of Home Learning is:

- to extend and enrich classwork;
- to develop independent learning;
- to develop extended study skills;
- to develop organisational skills;
- to establish a culture of meeting deadlines;
- to create a positive link between home and school;
- to prepare for future learning including for the most able students at the highest and most competitive levels.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Home Learning tasks should:

- Provide sufficient information for the pupils to complete the task.
At KS3 the tasks should be split into the following sections:
 - ***By the end of this task you will produce***
 - ***By the end of this task you will know***
 - **KEY WORDS**
 - ***How to complete the task***
 - ***Exceptional home learning may include***
 - ***Where to find help***
- be an integral and relevant part of the curriculum
- ensure the purpose of the task is clear and fully explained
- be organised in a clear and consistent way
- develop different skills and involve a range of activities
- be manageable and not overburden the pupils
- ensure the level of difficulty takes account of pupils' needs and abilities
- provide sufficient challenge but remain within the capabilities of all pupils
- allow pupils to exercise initiative and creativity
- promote self-confidence and understanding

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- Appropriate feedback should be given to the pupils within 2 weeks of the work being handed in
- Pupils completing Home Learning to a high standard should be awarded merits in line with the marking policy
- Parents should be informed when a pupil fails to complete a Home Learning task

- Repeated non-completion across several subjects will result in an after school detention
- The Additional Learning Centre should have an advisory role in the setting of Home Learning and an active role in preparation of Home Learning tasks where appropriate.

ASSESSMENT OF HOME LEARNING

All Home Learning tasks at KS3 will be marked using a six point scale as shown below.

Grade Awarded	What this means	Rewards for this grade
A	An outstanding piece of Home Learning, showing that you fulfilled or exceeded the time expected to complete it and gave it your best efforts. The final outcome is well above your target level.	3 merits
B	A good, sound piece of Home Learning, showing that you fulfilled the time expected to complete it and worked hard. The final outcome is above your target level.	2 merits
C	A satisfactory piece of Home Learning, showing that you completed the work, with some effort. The final outcome is at your target level.	1 merit
D	A disappointing piece of work, which looks as though not enough time was spent on it and / or that you didn't work hard enough on it. The final outcome is well below your target level.	0 merits
E	An unsatisfactory attempt.	0 merits - Work returned to be done again
F	Home Learning not completed.	0 merits and parents informed

These grades will be reported along with the normal Records of Progress (ROPs) and attitude grades. As the Home Learning tasks are staggered, not all subjects will be able to report a Home Learning grade with every report.

FREQUENCY AND LENGTH OF HOME LEARNING

At Key Stage 3 a Home Learning booklet will be issued to all pupils. The booklet will contain the Home Learning details for every subject. Pupils will be expected to spend approximately 3 hours on every subject.

The start and finishing times for all home learning tasks are shown in a table in the front of the booklet. An example is shown below.

Year 9 Autumn	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	03- Sep	10- Sep	17- Sep	24- Sep	01- Oct	08- Oct	15- Oct	22- Oct	05- Nov	12- Nov	19- Nov	26- Nov	03- Dec	10- Dec	17- Dec
English					H		r						H		
Maths						H		r						H	
Science				H								H		r	
ICT									H		r				
French								H		r					
Geog						H		r							
History					H		r								
Re				H		r									
Tech										H		r			
PE									H		r				
Art											H		r		
Drama															H
Music														H	
Dance													H		

At Key Stage 4 Home Learning is set twice a week in English, Mathematics and Science. Generally one of these will be a main Home Learning task and the other a task spread over several weeks such as coursework or revision.

All other subjects set one task a week and pupils will be expected to spend between 10 and 12 hours per week on Home Learning. This will be less for pupils studying applied learning courses. At Key Stage 4 it is normal for tasks to be extended over several weeks and there will be a greater emphasis placed on independent learning and time management.

At Key Stage 3 assessment grades for all Home Learning tasks will be collected electronically every ten weeks and reported to parents. At Key Stage 4 teachers should maintain a record of the assessments made and ensure these are reported regularly to the pupils.

Heads of Department and Heads of Year should monitor both the quality and quantity of Home Learning on a regular basis. The appropriate action should be taken where problems are identified.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

This policy will be monitored by the Deputy Head (Curriculum), who will report to the Headteacher on its implementation on a regular basis.

The Headteacher will report to the governing body's School Committee on the progress of the policy and will recommend any changes.

This policy will be reviewed by the Governors School Committee every two years.

Signed:

Date: 27.09.07

Chair of the Governing Body

Date of next review: September 09