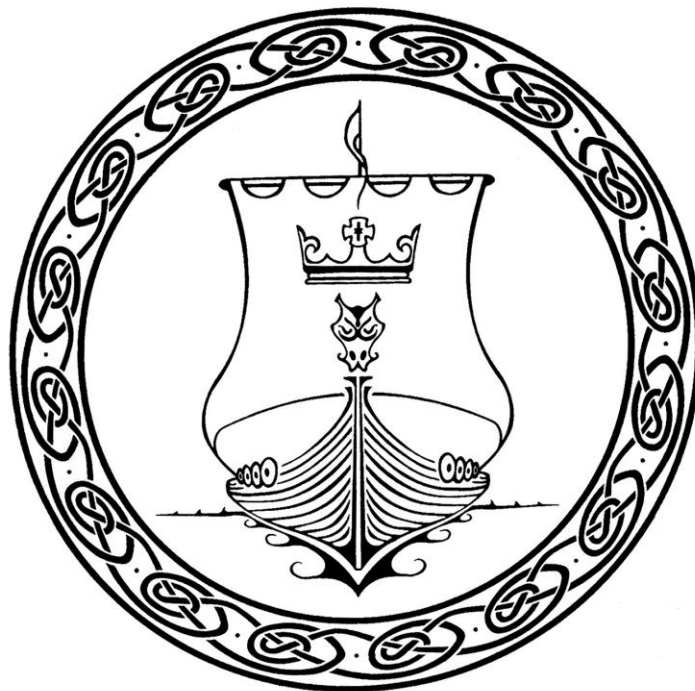




Queen Elizabeth II High School

Homework Policy



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Aims of the Policy

- To encourage pupils to develop their full potential at QEII
- To enable pupils to understand that independent learning is a vital ingredient in academic achievement
- To enlist the support of parents in helping pupils to achieve success
- To achieve a consistent approach to homework across the whole school which reinforces the importance of homework

Purposes and Principles of Homework

Homework at QEII should

- Extend and reinforce class work
- Be varied and manageable
- Be challenging but appropriate
- Promote self confidence and self reliance
- Provide possible indications of underachievement
- Involve parents in the learning process
- Encourage good organisation skills
- Reflect the breadth and balance of the curriculum

Types of Homework

Homework can take many forms depending on the specific needs of subjects and the needs of the pupils. These could include

- Finishing off work not completed in class
- Revision in preparation for an assessment
- Learning of newly taught materials or vocabulary
- Redrafting of class work
- Reading specific materials
- Self identified study where a pupil is having difficulty in a particular area
- Research on a particular topic
- Collection and collation of materials or resources
- Practice of e.g. a musical instrument, keyboard skills
- A specific assignment or self contained project/investigation

Where appropriate homework should be differentiated to ensure that it can be accessed by all pupils.

Role of Pupil

- At the start of each **ACADEMIC YEAR** pupils will be issued with a school planner
- They should bring their planner to school every day
- Write homework issued by their class teacher into the planner when set
- Have the planner checked and signed by their parent/guardian at the end of each week

Issued homework must be completed.



If a pupil cannot complete homework they should discuss the reason for this with their class teacher. This should take place before the homework completion date unless there are **exceptional** circumstances. It will be up to their class teacher to decide whether or not the reason is a valid one. If pupils fail to complete homework a number of things will happen. These may include

- Completing a reinforcement exercise
- Attending a support session to help complete the homework
- In school sanctions such as departmental detention
- Having a letter sent home to parents
- Parents being contacted by the class teacher or Head of Subject

Pupils who do their homework and always hand it in well done and on time will

- Benefit from making progress in their academic studies
- Receive praise from their teachers
- Be given recognition for their achievement in school reports to parents

Pupils should also take advantage of the school's support by discussing homework difficulties with teachers (for example at lunchtime clubs) or Support for Learning where appropriate.

Role of Staff

All teachers should establish a high expectation that homework will be done by everyone and that failure to do this will be treated seriously. To encourage this all staff should

- Issue homework regularly and ensure that it is appropriate for the pupils in their class
- Issue homework in accordance with the homework timetable (Appendix 1)
- Praise pupils who return homework that is well done and in on time, and display examples of good homework
- Keep a record of who does, and does not, complete their homework
- Mark homework in accordance with the school's assessment policy
- Use the notes section of the school planner to inform parents of poor or non returned homework

Procedures for the non return of homework

- Check whether or not the pupil needs additional support for the completion of the task
- If appropriate, Issue warning for failure to complete homework
- If it is the policy of the department, issue a reinforcement exercise when a pupil fails to return homework. This can be completed in departmental detention
- Refer pupils who fail to return a piece of homework after having been warned to do so or failing to return the reinforcement exercise to the Head of Subject/Director of Key Stage



Role of Parents

We therefore encourage parents to participate in their child's education by accepting their part in overseeing the work done at home.

We encourage parents to

- Speak with their child regularly about homework and discuss the importance of doing homework
- Check and sign planners at the end of each week
- Provide a suitable environment in which homework can be done
- Contact the school if their child is having difficulties with homework or if there are extenuating circumstances which would prevent the return of homework



Homework:

Year Group	Approximate amount of weekly homework per subject
7 & 8	1 homework of 20 to 30 minutes
9	1 homework of 30 to 45 minutes
10 & 11	1 homework of 1 to 1 ½ hours Independent research is always encouraged
Students should always re-read what work they have done in class and check they understand it and it is complete.	