

Home Learning Policy

Rationale

There are many benefits of home learning. Benefits include learners developing their knowledge of the key component knowledge. Furthermore, learners develop their self-discipline, time management and organisation skills. Home learning encourages learners to think, act and accept responsibility for themselves. Research compiled by the EEF suggests that learners who regularly complete home learning in a secondary setting make 5+ months additional progress compared to those who do not. The research shows 6+ months of progress can be achieved where collaborative and digital home learning is utilised.

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/homework>

What does excellence in home learning look like at WHS?

When?

KS3

Learners should expect to spend on average 30 minutes per week completing home learning tasks for English, maths and science.

Learners should expect to spend on average 20 minutes per week completing home learning tasks for geography, history and MFL.

Learners may occasionally receive home learning tasks in other subjects in addition to the core and humanities subjects.

KS4

Home learning will be set for core and options subjects frequently. Learners should expect to spend on average 1 hour per week completing home learning for English, maths and science and on average 30 minutes per week completing home learning tasks for option subjects.

Learners who study practical and vocational subjects are strongly encouraged to attend all after school sessions to take advantage of the teacher expertise and the resources available.

During the run up to mock exams and the real exams, home learning will be more frequent yet in smaller chunks (EG: 50 day challenge) so that students are supported to plan their revision time. These periods of revision will be communicated by Mrs Benigno.

Appropriate completion deadlines will be given!

What?

Knowledge organiser related learning

Spellings of key component vocabulary

Reading

Comprehension activities

Practical tasks

Independent revision

Home learning may be paper-based or digital.

Some home learning may have a longer deadline depending on the nature of the task.

How?

All home learning assignment details must be noted by learners in their planner.

Class teachers will also log home learning details on Arbor enabling the learners and their parents/carers to view the assignments details and submission date easily.

Knowledge Organiser Booklets

KS3 Learners should use their knowledge organiser booklets to support home learning completion.

Learners should also use their knowledge organisers to develop their independent study skills. Ideas for how to use the knowledge organisers can be found in the termly knowledge organiser booklet.

Knowledge organisers and a parent guide for their use can also be found on the school website.

<https://www.westhoughton-high.org/knowledge-organisers/>

Extra support

The library will be available for the completion of home learning before school from 8am and then after school (not Wednesday) until 4pm.

At KS4, class teachers for all subjects may also offer Period 0 and/or Period 6 sessions to boost progress.

Mid-week specials sessions for KS4 will run on Wednesday afternoons from 2.15pm until 5.45pm with academic mentors to support home learning completion and independent study.

Rewards and consequences

Merits

Where learners complete their home learning well, additional “Good Home Learning” merits will be awarded.

Consequences

At KS3, learners who fail to hand in two pieces of home learning will be given a C2 detention. At KS4, class teachers will issue a C2 detention for each piece of home learning missed.

Extra-curricular learning

Many subjects frequently hold subject specific projects, competitions, and clubs. Learners are strongly encouraged to engage with as many extra-curricular activities as possible.

Non-curriculum home learning opportunities

These initiatives will have their own outcomes. E.G. Yr9 – Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE Team)