



IRLAM & CADISHEAD COLLEGE

HOMework POLICY

2018-2019

Homework is an integral part of Teaching & Learning, and should be used by all teaching practitioners to raise attainment and ensure that students make rapid and sustained progress. This policy is underpinned by OFSTED's criteria for 'Outstanding' Teaching, Learning and Assessment from its 'School inspection handbook':

***“Teachers set challenging homework, in line with the school’s policy and as appropriate for the age and stage of pupils, that consolidates learning, deepens understanding and prepares pupils very well for work to come.”***

*(OFSTED School inspection handbook, August 2015)*

## **Aims:**

### **Homework is set to:**

- Support and develop learning and be appropriate for all students’ needs;
- Challenge and extend the knowledge, skills and understanding that students have acquired in lessons;
- Promote good or better progress for students; and
- Develop students’ independent learning and study skills.

### **To achieve these aims we will:**

- Ensure that homework has a purpose, is meaningful and aims to enhance independent learning. It will extend the learning opportunities achieved within school;
- Expect all students to use their planners to record their homework accurately. Students are expected to have their planner with them in every lesson and record homework accurately, writing the subjects into their planner for each day that homework should be set in advance as stated on the homework timetable;
- Expect that parents and carers are involved in the homework process. Parents and carers are essential in supporting their child with their homework and can also assist by ensuring that homework is recorded in planners and by checking that their child has completed it. They are asked to sign/comment in the planner every week, which will be checked by the form tutor;
- Set homework in accordance with the homework timetable;
- Ensure that homework is assessed effectively. All homework will be formatively marked (by the teacher, a critical partner or self-assessed) in order to help students move forward in their learning, identifying clear actions for improvement;
- Follow up any failure to complete homework. Consequences of failure to hand in homework by an agreed deadline will result in the following:-
  - Detentions issued by class teacher - detentions will be proportionate to the circumstances of the issue. If a student fails to complete the class teacher’s detention then this will escalate the nature of the detention, ultimately escalating to the attention of the Head of Department.

- Failure to complete homework repeatedly will result in parents being informed by telephone or by letter. If this becomes a recurring issue, parents may be invited into school to support their child in meeting the school's expectations
- Reward students who regularly complete homework. We will display homework of a high standard and send praise postcards home to acknowledge progress, attainment and effort; and
- Guide parents and pupils to understand that homework supports work in class and enables students to develop skills and subject knowledge. The importance of regular, relevant homework should be valued and reinforced by students and all stakeholders.

## Roles and Responsibilities

### All Heads of Department are responsible for:

- Ensure Homework is embedded into Schemes of Work
- Quality assure the Homework that is handed out in their Departments by using Lesson 'Drop Ins' and Student Voice
- Support teachers within their department when sanctions/praise are given for Homework, where appropriate

### All Class Teachers are responsible for:

- Setting Homework of challenge and access in accordance with the Homework timetable under the direction of HoDs
- Setting Homework that consolidates learning and deepens students' understanding
- Setting deadlines for Homework and ensuring that they are met, and that if not, appropriate sanctions are given within the Department, supported by HoDs
- Providing regular marking and feedback in line with the school's marking and assessment policy.
- Providing help and support where appropriate

### Form Tutors are responsible for monitoring:

- Parents' signing of planners during weekly planner checks; and
- That homework is set and that students have acknowledged its completion

### All Heads of Year are responsible for:

- Students with organisational skills, where appropriate, across curriculum areas; and
- Curriculum Area Leaders when Departmental sanctions have been applied and there is continued noncompliance with homework.

### **The Use of the Student Planner**

- All students are issued with a Student Planner at the start of each academic year. It is important that the Student Planner is used appropriately. Students are expected to record all Homework issued and the deadline date, so that they are aware of what they need to complete and when. Meeting deadline will help equip students for their working life. If the Student Planner is not being used correctly, this needs to be challenged and rectified.

## **Frequency of homework:**

### **Key Stage Three**

Homework is set once a week for English, Maths and Science.

Homework is set once a fortnight for Languages, History, Geography, RE, PE, Art, Drama, Music, ICT, Technology and Year 9 PE.

### **Key Stage Four**

Homework is set once per week for all subject areas – as a minimum.

*Please see the current homework timetable on the school website for assigned homework days.*