



HOME LEARNING POLICY

Ratified by Governors/Principal:	Principal
Current ratification date:	Autumn 2015
Review frequency:	Annually
Next review date:	Autumn 2016
Responsibility of:	Donna Butcher

INTRODUCTION

At Freebrough Academy, Home Learning is designed to support students to develop, consolidate and extend their knowledge, understanding and skills. It also gives students opportunities to develop effective learning habits and independent learning skills beyond the school day to support achievement. Research shows that effective Home Learning can support students in making the equivalent of five months progress across an Academic year.

At secondary level, the recommendations of the time spent on Home Learning are:

KS3 (Y7 - Y8)

- Equivalent of at least 30 minutes per week **for each** Core subject
 - English
 - Maths
 - Science

- Equivalent of at least 30 minutes per fortnight **for each** Foundation subject
 - Business and Enterprise
 - MFL
 - ICT
 - Technology
 - PE
 - Art
 - Drama
 - Dance
 - History
 - Geography
 - Philosophy & Ethics

KS4 (Y9 - Y11)

- Equivalent of at least one hour per week **for each** Core subject
 - English
 - Maths
 - Science

- Equivalent of at least one hour per fortnight **for each** Option subjects
 - Business and Enterprise
 - MFL
 - ICT
 - Computer Science
 - Textiles
 - Catering
 - Resistant Materials
 - Engineering
 - Health and Social Care
 - Psychology
 - Sport

- Art
- Photography
- Drama
- Dance
- History
- Geography
- Religious Studies

KS5 (Y12 - Y13)

- Equivalent of at least 5 hours per week per subject for Level 3 qualifications

HOME LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Home Learning activities should be varied and give students the opportunity to reinforce concepts learned in the classroom; explore and investigate topics in more depth; extend learning to enrich the understanding of key concepts or complete assessment tasks such as coursework or exam papers at KS4 and KS5. Home Learning is not to finish work left incomplete during lesson time, it is an essential part of all learning plans at every key stage. It is the responsibility of the class teacher to ensure that Home Learning tasks are varied, interesting and where appropriate, differentiated. Tasks could include:

- Research and investigation
- Exam questions
- Revision
- Flipped learning – preparation for topics in lessons
- Directed reading
- Extended writing
- Drafting work
- Projects including coursework
- Preparing presentations
- Practising vocabulary/basic skills
- Rehearsing
- Creating a piece of art
- Product design

All Home Learning activities are set by the teacher during lesson time and, where possible, uploaded to FROG. All activities should have a clear purpose, deadline and expectations for presentation and follow the five hallmarks of effective Home Learning:

1. **Purpose** – all Home Learning assignments are meaningful, so that students understand the purpose of the assignment and why it is important in the context of their academic experience
2. **Efficiency** – Home Learning tasks are effectively structured so that time spent on them is used efficiently
3. **Ownership** – Home Learning tasks provide students with a choice in their assignments and structured so that they can be completed to a good standard outside of the classroom
4. **Competence** – Home Learning tasks are differentiated and that the tasks are explained and scaffolded to support students in completing them.

5. **Aesthetics** – Home Learning tasks are presented clearly with guidance on the nature of the task and how it should be completed

Students are expected to record the Home Learning in their planner and this is monitored by the tutor and signed by parents.

All Home Learning tasks will be assessed and returned to students within a week of the deadline. Class teachers are expected to keep a record of Home Learning tasks, completion rates and grades or marks for the task and effort, if appropriate.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS COMPLETING HOME LEARNING

All Home Learning activities will have a specific deadline that gives a reasonable amount of time for students to complete the task. If necessary, students should seek further guidance and support from the class teacher prior to the deadline, this could include access to ICT facilities

The Learning Resource Centre provides a supportive, working environment with ICT facilities for students to complete Home Learning during lunchtime and both before and after school.

Students are also encouraged to use some of their time during tutorial to work collaboratively with others on Home Learning tasks.

Completing Home Learning on time is rewarded at Freebrough Academy and is an important part of the criteria for awarding learner quality status. For students who do not complete Home Learning, this is recorded by the teacher and may lead to a consequence and/or contact with home.

MONITORING HOME LEARNING

Directors of Learning will monitor the quality, setting and completion of Home Learning activities in their Faculty areas to ensure that it is in line with Academy policy. Monitoring Home Learning will be a key feature of the Academy's quality assurance processes when monitoring, evaluating and reviewing teachers' planning and Student Voice. Effective practice in Home Learning will be shared with staff in the Faculty and, where relevant, at Extended Leadership Team meetings.