Mathematics Department Quality Standards for Home Learning
A Framework to Support Progress in Learning

Rationale

Home learning is an invaluable opportunity for students to continue their learning outside of the timetabled curriculum. When home learning tasks are set and completed effectively, it becomes a crucial way of raising standards in achievement and encouraging young people to develop a positive attitude to learning that they will carry with them for the rest of their life.

Home learning enhances students' learning experiences and develops a sense of independence and ownership of their education. It is a key element of the central aims of the National Curriculum: the creation of successful learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve; confident individuals and responsible citizens.

Aims

Home learning enables students to:
- Consolidate the skills covered in school
- Develop independent study skills
- Develop research skills
- Have the opportunity to work independently or collaboratively.
- Demonstrate their understanding of a topic or concept
- Become independent learners and develop skills like time management or planning
- Access resources not available in the classroom

Home learning enables teachers to:
- Assess work and inform their future planning and teaching
- Give students individual feedback on their progress

Home learning enables parents/carers to:
- Engage with and support their child's learning

Home learning tasks

All tasks should be designed to have an impact on learning and achievement. Where tasks are started in class, they should only be set to be completed with specific criteria and where the teacher believes it will have an impact on learning. Tasks could include:
- Completing in-depth tasks started in classes
- Independent learning e.g. researching a project or preparing a resource on a specific topic
- Consolidation of work covered in lessons
- Demonstration of a skill or concept
- Reading and related tasks to demonstrate understanding
- Use of ICT e.g. creating a PowerPoint
- Revision tasks e.g. practice questions

Timescales

Year	Time spent on task
7	30 mins
8	30 mins
9	45 mins
10	60 mins
11	60mins

Home learning will be set on the relevant days in accordance with the whole school timetable. Class teachers will provide feedback on home learning tasks within one week of completion to enable students to act on teacher advice.

Students should speak to class teachers **before** the deadline if they are experiencing difficulties.

Incentives

- Praise postcards
- Commendations
- Notes in planners

Sanctions

- Note in planner
- Breaktime/lunchtime detention for non-completion
- Letter home if repeated non-completion
- After school detention if still not completed

Extra Support
Class teachers are available from 12.35pm to 1.00pm each day for support in completing home learning tasks.

Monitoring and Responsibilities

Role of Student
- To write down tasks and deadlines in their planners
- To ensure that work is completed to the best of their ability
- To submit home learning tasks on the deadline set
- To inform the class teacher if they are having difficulties before the deadline

Revised January 2013

Role of Class Teacher
- To follow the home learning policy in setting of home learning tasks
- To give full and clear instructions to enable students to complete tasks effectively
- Set clear and reasonable deadlines
- Follow the home learning policy in following up students who have not met deadlines
- Provide help and support if a student is having difficulties
- Ensure all tasks are appropriate and differentiated according to students' needs

Role of Curriculum Leader
- To monitor how assignments are being set in accordance with the curriculum team policy
- To ensure the quality of feedback given is specific, consistent and helpful
- To review the effectiveness of the home learning policy and make adjustments as necessary
- To respond to queries and concerns raised by governors, students, parents and carers about the amount, frequency and quality of assessment of home learning tasks.