

Ralph Thoresby School Homework Policy

Aims (WHY):

The overarching aim of this policy is to set clear whole school expectations for the setting and monitoring of homework. Details on how to meet these expectations in each subject will be found in each Area Homework Protocol.

- To ensure that work to be completed beyond the classroom is both **meaningful and relevant** to students' learning and progress
- To develop a sense of **responsibility and ownership** of learning in the students
- To increase student **independence and organisation** skills
- To enable **parents to be more actively involved** in supporting the learning and progress of their child(ren)
- To motivate students to develop a **range of skills, including collaboration and creativity**
- To enable staff to have an even greater **knowledge and understanding of the abilities and needs** of the students

Homework setting (WHAT):

- ✓ Homework needs to be **embedded into SOW**, and have **direct links to the topic** / unit being covered
- ✓ Homework tasks will be set on average **every 4-5 hours of learning**, to coincide with the **appropriate learning point**. Where longer projects are set, this should equate to the equivalent hours
- ✓ Students need to be made **aware of the relevance and importance** of the homework to their learning and the **impact it will have on their progress**
- ✓ **Clear instructions, deadlines and expectations need to be explicit and set via the Classcharts homework module**
- ✓ Homework tasks should be **varied** and allow for **different learning styles** where appropriate
- ✓ Opportunities for **cross-curricular working** should be embraced and encouraged
- ✓ Homework should be **acknowledged by staff**, and marked/assessed where appropriate
- ✓ Students should be **rewarded for high quality homework**, and **sanctioned for repeat incompleteness** of tasks

Suggested strategies to support effective completion of homework (HOW):

- ❖ Homework to be included in all SOW, and department leaders should ensure quality and suitability of tasks set
- ❖ Subject teachers to monitor the completion and quality of the homework in their teaching groups
- ❖ Mentors to check that homework is being recorded fully in planners by students
- ❖ Quality homework should be rewarded with an achievement. B codes should be used to record incomplete or insufficient homework. Achievements for homework may be *in addition* to achievements given in lessons. Detentions to be given, following school policy, for repeated failure to complete homework.
- ❖ Assemblies used to reward and celebrate high quality homework
- ❖ Half termly monitoring of student planners by SLT link for each year group
- ❖ The ILZ will be available to targeted year groups / key stages on specific days.

Expectations of staff:

- Homework should be published on Classcharts with **clear instructions** (see above) and resources (if applicable) attached
- Homework submissions should be recorded **on the day of hand in** – tip: toggle all as 'submitted (green)' then simply click each student who fails to produce adequate homework and change them to 'overdue (red)'
- Staff are **NOT** expected to go back in and amend submissions once the initial submission has taken place
- Staff are required to acknowledge homework in line with the school marking policy – unless the task is a PINS task, in-depth marking is not required.
- Departments must use Classcharts as the way to track homework. This report should be discussed regularly at department and line management meetings

