Homework Policy

Person Responsible:	Mr I Chapman	**Frequency of Review:**	2 Year
Authorisation By:	Headteacher	**Notice Date:**	20/09/2027
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1 Introduction

The teacher standards require teachers to:

Set homework and plan other out-of-class activities to consolidate and extend the knowledge and understanding pupils have acquired.

At Upper Wharfedale School we believe that homework is important in raising student achievement and value its role in encouraging all students to become responsible and independent learners. The main purpose of homework is to consolidate and extend learning as well as provide opportunities for students to prepare for new learning.

2 Aims

As a school we will:

- Set homework in accordance with the homework timetable.
- Set homework which is **appropriately challenging** and which may differentiate through task as well as by outcome.
- Vary the type of task set to allow for individual initiative and the development of good independent study skills.
- Set homework carefully and clearly, allowing time for pupils to record the activity required in their planners.
- Make clear the aims, objectives and the assessment/success criteria for homework.
- Provide feedback on the homework in line with the School's marking/assessment/feedback policy. (This includes marking and returning work as soon as possible, providing formative written and verbal feedback).
- To ensure that there are systems in place which will support pupils in completing.
- Help students to complete homework satisfactorily and on time (e.g. planners, target-setting, mentoring, help with study skills).

3 Curriculum Areas

Each curriculum area has its own vision for homework and how it supports learning and progress in that area.

3.1 Mathematics and Enterprise

The Mathematics and Enterprise Curriculum Area set regular and varied homework tasks that support the learning in class throughout the course of the year. In all cases students will receive timely feedback that allows them to reflect on their learning and progress further as a result.

3.1.1 Mathematics

Homework is a key factor in the students' learning and is focused on developing their ability to work independently at home, thereby reinforcing topics covered in class and increasing confidence. Homework is set at least once per week in all year groups. A variety of resources are used: worksheets, past exam papers and the MathsWatch website. Students are also encouraged to make use of the videos and self-marking element of the MathsWatch website to do their own revision.

3.1.2 ICT and Computing

Key Stage 3 – Homework tasks vary throughout years 7, 8 and 9 to match the content covered in class. Often project or research based and may be set to be completed for the following lesson or over a longer period of time as appropriate.

Key Stage 4 – Vocational courses are based on controlled assessment and therefore the majority of work needs to be completed in school. Preparation and research homework will be given where appropriate. Homework for exam based courses will be set weekly and focus on reinforcing the work covered in class.

3.1.3 Business Enterprise

The majority of the course is based on controlled assessment and therefore the majority of work needs to be completed in school. In year 11 students will prepare for the examined unit and so homework will involve completion of practice questions and revision.

3.2 Science and Geography

At KS4 the homework is generally based around a workbook enhancing and developing understanding within a topic. When completed this also forms an additional revision aid.

At KS3, Y8 and Y9 homework projects are set to enhance students' knowledge and research skills. The homework is set around the topic and involves a level of personal choice towards the style whilst consolidate learning of the current topic. In Y7 the homework is lesson based and used to support development within the topic.

3.3 Human Studies

The Human Studies Curriculum Area set regular and varied homework tasks that support the learning in class throughout the course of the year.

3.3.1 English

English homework is about independent study. It is set to enrich the subject and engage the students.

Tasks will be varied and interesting. Homework will vary from extended project-based work about cultural contexts, to small and measured learning in the form of spellings or learning language terminology. We aim to engage students through a variety of styles of learning from reading and writing to posters, storyboards and research.

We aim to enable all pupils to become independent learners, thinkers and readers across both key stages.

3.3.2 History/RE

Examples of homework tasks:

- Research based homework
- Talk based homework
- Longer term homework projects
- Revision homework

Recording homework in alternative forms:

- Digital homework (including animations)
- Talk homework
- Creative homework (including pictures, posters and models)

3.3.3 French

Homework in MFL is issued regularly as per the school's homework schedule. The homework activities are designed to support and build on the learning taking place in the classroom. They will be a varied and engaging mixture of written and verbal activities designed to promote excellent fluency in French.

3.4 Visual and Performing Arts

3.4.1 PE

At GCSE the purpose of homework is to extend classwork and reinforce topics learnt in class. GCSE PE homework will be set weekly.

In core PE at Key Stage 4, lessons are designed around leadership, independent learning and preparing students for lifelong participation in sport, therefore on-going homework for students is for them to be involved with sports clubs or sports activities so that they are taking part in physical activity outside of school.

In core PE at Key Stage 3, lessons are designed around giving the students the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to be able to take part in specific sporting activities, therefore on-going homework is to practice the skills and reinforce the rules that students learn in the lesson.

3.4.2 Art

Students in both key stages are encouraged to take their sketchbooks home regularly to complete and extend school based work. They are given open access to art room materials (which can be borrowed and taken home) and are also allowed to use the art room during break and lunchtime.

Key Stage 3 – Homework is set according to the homework timetable (although pupils can take work home at any point during the year). The tasks are intended to support the work in class, typically:

Year 7 complete graffiti style postcards on themes linked to the signs and symbols project.

Year 8 research images of local buildings and draw from them.

Year 9 source visual information linked to their favourite people, possessions and food to support the Pop Art project.

Key Stage 4 - All GCSE students are expected to develop work in their sketchbook at home on a regular basis – it is very difficult to achieve a higher level grade without this. For many, their sketchbook becomes a source of pride and shows evidence of many hours independent home learning.

3.4.3 Performing Arts

In KS4 the purpose of homework is to complete work for the BTEC. This includes practising and working on targets. Homework will be set when needed and will rotate between coursework and performance practice.

Homework for KS3 is project based. All projects link to the topics studied at school developing and extending learning done in the classroom. All information on these projects can be found on Microsoft Teams. In each year they will receive one topic linked to music and one topic linked to drama per year.

The homework is designed to support all in class activities by encouraging research into context of the drama or music studies. The tasks will also allow students to be reflective about the learning and drama practise undertaken in school. Students will be writing reports on their own and other peoples' performances. This is to encourage reflective learners and greater engagement with the subject.

3.5 Design and Technology

Homework will be set to extend, support and challenge students' learning.

As appropriate to the work done in class, tasks will be set that might be completed for the next lesson or over a more extended period.

Homework tasks in D&T are often integral to the design process and are usually fully explained on the VLE with examples by students in previous years.

Food Technology homework will include preparation for practical lessons along with extended tasks for example researching aspects of nutrition. Tasks are supported by the VLE with all recipes, methods and special instructions available for food practical lessons.