

# The University Academy Holbeach

*Principal: Sheila Paige*

## **Homework Policy**

Adopted by the governing body: January 2022

To be reviewed every two years

Review date: January 2024

Homework is set for the following reasons:

- to enable pupils to develop their work to their full potential
- to allow pupils time to reflect on what has been done in the classroom
- to help teachers assess the effectiveness of their teaching and the level of understanding gained
- to prepare pupils for future independent study
- to allow use of resources which may be available outside of the Academy
- to involve parents in their child's learning
- to enable pupils to take responsibility for their own learning.

Homework is set regularly and by all departments. Pupils at each Key Stage will receive homework with a regularity specific to each subject area. The length for each task will vary. The term "regularly" will be interpreted by Heads of Department, and made clear on homework timetables. Learning Coordinators will issue parents with their child's homework timetable at the beginning of each school year, and all pupils are given a homework diary which parents are asked to check and sign each week, together with the form tutor.

Homework must be recorded in diaries and these should be used as a channel of communication if homework is completed effectively, not done or not handed in on time.

Homework may also be uploaded to the VLE in order that parents and guardians may monitor when it is set and due for completion. Staff will also upload, where possible, any necessary resources required to complete the task. Pupils

It is incumbent on staff to mark/assess homework and record the marks, as appropriate. This should be marked in line with the school's Marking Policy.

The completion of homework by pupils is the responsibility of the subject teacher, the head of department and parents. Any problem relating to homework should, in the first instance, be dealt with by the subject teacher and/or HOD. Repeated failure to do homework will be treated seriously and discussed with the appropriate form tutor and Learning Coordinator. Failure to complete homework will result in a subject detention and further sanctions may be deemed necessary if a pupil fails to produce homework on a regular basis.

## **TEACHERS' RESPONSIBILITY FOR HOMEWORK**

Homework should be carefully planned as part of lesson preparation. Subject teachers must ensure that homework is written down and understood by the pupils and, where appropriate, completed in separate Homework Books. Time must be set aside in lessons to explain the task and it is good practice for the homework to be written on the board. The setting of homework should not be rushed at the end of a lesson. Staff are encouraged to set homework at the start of the relevant lesson.

There should be clarity around what the purpose and relevance of each homework task is. Generally speaking, it should be used to reinforce learning from lessons, developing skills in relation to work in lessons or be research-based ready for future learning. This may also take the form of exam practice and preparation.

The LRC will remain open until 5 pm each day (4.30pm on Fridays) so that pupils who wish to use the resources for homework, or pupils requiring help with homework, will have the opportunity to use this area. Help from Learning Mentors and/or a member of staff will always be available at this time.

Each Department will have a policy for homework, which is discussed regularly, including the best strategies for effective differentiation. It is particularly important that teachers new to the profession are helped and supported in setting and marking appropriate homework.

## **REVIEW**

This policy should be reviewed within two school years.

