

## Homework at Hollyfield: Guiding Principles

Having consulted staff, students and parents, we are introducing some key changes to the ways in which we approach homework at Hollyfield, whilst also keeping those elements that have worked well.

We consider homework to be a really important part of students' learning experience.

Homework can be used to:

- recap, embed and extend key learning
- deepen understanding
- prepare students for new learning
- develop key skills
- explore ideas (our own and other people's)
- refine and improve existing work
- prepare students for upcoming assessments
- complete creative and extended projects

It also provides a bridge between school and home, giving parents and carers an insight into what is being learnt at school and giving them an opportunity to be actively involved.

We have asked staff to consider and plan their homework assignments with care, and to share the details of each assignment on **Class Charts**, so that students, staff and parents can all help to ensure that it is completed.

We will provide a homework timetable, so that students know what to expect each week and so that (with the help of parents/carers) they can manage their time effectively. The approximate length and frequency of homework assignments in each subject is indicated on the schedule - and we have taken feedback from staff, students and parents into account when streamlining this. Those subjects that are taught weekly at KS3 (Music, Drama, RE etc.) have fewer assignments than those taught weekly - and we will all aim to give students at least a week to complete each assignment, with deadline dates published (along with assignment details) on **Class Charts**.

The type of assignment set will vary according to subject and topic, with, for example, KS3 Maths teachers alternating between written and online assignments and students in Design and Technology working on extended projects. In addition to their weekly written or research homework in English, we will expect all KS3 students to read for 20 minutes every evening and we appreciate parents/carers' support with this. Ahead of formal assessments, teachers will set revision tasks in place of new learning. Feedback will be given in line with our teaching, learning and assessment policy. Sometimes, this will be verbal feedback or guided self/peer assessment - and sometimes this will be written feedback from teachers.

It is our expectation that all students will complete their homework. Those who need additional help or support are very welcome to join our homework clubs, either in departments, the LRC or the Learning Support department. Where students fail to complete homework, sanctions will be given in line with the school policy.

We hope that this new 'joined up' approach to homework will be a success and we will complete a follow up review of Homework at Hollyfield in the summer term.