

PARK HALL SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

“Where homework is used by pupils and teachers as an important component in teaching and learning, it offers considerable opportunities to enhance the quality of school work” – Homework report by OFSTED (1995)

“Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Regular homework is important, since it gives pupils the opportunity to practice at home the tasks done in class, and helps the pupils work towards improving important skills. It also helps children to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help throughout their time at school, and in adult life.” (Source www.teachernet.gov)

At Park Hall School we believe that homework is an essential part of pupils' learning. Homework will be set regularly and pupils will be encouraged to establish good homework habits from the beginning of their career at Park Hall. Assessment of homework will form an important part of the overall Assessment, Recording and Reporting Policy.

PRINCIPLES

The main purposes of homework are:

- i) to help raise standards of achievement
- ii) to encourage pupils to develop independent study and organisational skills
- iii) to develop perseverance and self-discipline
- vi) to allow practice of skills learned in the classroom
- v) to cover more ground and make more rapid progress
- vi) to concentrate in class on activities requiring a teacher's presence
- vii) to use materials and information not accessible in the classroom
- viii) to involve parents (and other adults) in pupils' work
- ix) to encourage pupils to take responsibility for their own learning

Homework is to be set on a regular basis. The nature, type and length of homework will vary according to the age and ability of the pupil, and the subject.

(Approximate) Time allocations for homework:

Year 7	45-90 minutes per day
Year 8	45-90 minutes per day
Year 9	1-2 hours per day
Year 10&11	1.5-2 hours per day
6th Form	Unspecified (several hours per subject is typical)

Notes

- 1 Times indicated are a rough guide only and will clearly depend on an individual's effort and effectiveness.
- 2 The times indicated will be an average over a period, e.g. a month.
- 3 All pupils should have the opportunity to do homework appropriate to their individual needs.
- 4 Because of the possibility of pupils' extra-curricular or family commitments on a certain night, teachers will not necessarily ask for homework to be completed for the next day, and may set long homework assignments which span several homeworks.
- 5 Some practical subjects may need to set homework on a different basis; although still at regular intervals in line with their schemes of work.
- 6 Homework set immediately prior to examinations will normally be revision and/or revision exercises.
- 7 **Mr Andrews** (Head of Performing Arts) will organise printed homework timetables for distribution to pupils at the beginning of the Autumn term, together with details of the current Homework Policy.