Homework Policy

Date: October 2023

Next review: October 2024

Policy written following 2-week consultation with SLT, MLT and Student sample group Weeks 6+7

Rationale of policy – what is the purpose of homework (independent learning) at Nicholas Chamberlaine School?

We employ meaningful independent learning activities as part of a carefully planned curriculum. All independent learning involves meaningful engagement with the following:
- Opportunities to retrieve knowledge, practice skills and develop competency over time,
- Opportunities for consolidation of taught content to foster familiarity through exposure,
- Opportunities for preparation to engage in new learning,
- Opportunities to enrich classroom learning with development of learned content,
- Opportunities to self-review and close gaps in personal learning.

What are our expectations for students regarding homework?
- Students will not be set more than one hour per evening.
- Students access Google Classroom to find homework set, check deadlines and confirm returns.

At KS3:
- Core subjects will set weekly. These subjects are: English, Maths, Science, MFL.
- Non-Core subjects will set either fortnightly or as term-based projects that require the equivalent time to complete (for example: Technology or Music – instrument practice).
- Personal Reading will account as a set homework once per week.

At KS4:
- All subjects weekly; each homework will take around 30 minutes to complete successfully.
- Core subjects will set twice weekly.

At Post 16:
- All subjects one hour weekly.
- One hour independent study for 2 hours of taught classes (approx. x2 hours per subject per week).

What are our expectations for teachers with regards to Homework (and QA)?
- Homework activities will be set on Google Classroom to support students in managing their workloads successfully.
- All homework set on Google Classroom will follow the same format to support collective efficacy through familiarity:
  a) Title of homework activity,
  b) A short, clear explanation of the task (success criteria),
  c) A deadline for returns,
- Homework is explicit within planned sequences of learning (Curriculum Planning – SLT QA),
- Homework is appropriate but aspirational in terms of challenge: this may include variations resulting from differentiation.
- Homework is set according to the rota/schedule (MLT QA),
- To support the 'currency' of homework, activities must be assessed for engagement and for quality. Set homework activities may be assessed by:

a) By the teacher as a set outcome,
b) In class through self- or peer-assessment as a planned part of learning sequences,
c) Through online self-marking platforms such as Seneca, Sparks Maths, Google Classroom etc,

What happens if homework is <u>not</u> completed?
- We will operate a policy of positive reinforcement.
- Successful return of homework is to be rewarded with a House Point from the issuing teacher.
- Attendance to end-of-term Rewards Trips is contingent upon evidence of House Points from returning homework.
- Supportive measure of 'Homework Club' in library after school each evening (KS3), open access to computer rooms (KS4 & Post 16).

Recommended Homework Timetables

The following timetables are suggestions to support students with successful time-management.

By completing homework on the nights set, students will ensure an even spread and will avoid feeling 'overloaded'.

KS3 Week A				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
• English	• Maths	• Science	• French/Spanish	• Personal reading
• Geography	• Computer Studies	• Watch the news	• Art	• MISST instrument practice

KS3 Week B				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
• English	• Maths	• Science	• French/Spanish	• Personal reading
• Drama	• Watch the news	• RE	• History	• MISST instrument practice

KS4					
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sunday
• English 1	• Maths 1	• Science 1	• Option 2	• History or Geography	• Gap close 1
• Option 1	• French	• English 2	• Maths 2	• Science 2	• Gap close 2