



## **READING SCHOOL**

### **Reading School Homework Policy**

#### **Objectives and targets**

The aim of Reading School's homework policy is to encourage the continuation of learning at home and in the community as an essential part of a pupil's education. Homework not only reinforces classroom learning, it also helps pupils to develop skills, attitudes, and understanding that they need to realise their full potential and to develop self-learning skills for the future. It encourages exploration, investigation, creative thinking, and can help develop self-confidence.

The objectives of setting homework are:

- To encourage pupils to develop the skills, confidence and motivation needed to study effectively on their own, which is vital given the importance to pupils for lifelong learning and adaptability.
- Consolidating and reinforcing skills and understanding developed at school.
- Extending school learning, for example through additional reading.
- Sustaining the involvement of parents and carers in the management of their children's learning and keeping them informed about the work pupils are doing.
- Managing particular demands, such as GCSE non-examined assessment and A level coursework.

One of the sanctions open to Reading School is the use of departmental detention or school detention for pupils who fail to complete their homework. Parents are requested to support the school in its attempts to maintain good order for the benefit of all.

The school will ensure that homework is an integral part of the curriculum and is planned and prepared alongside all other programmes of learning and teaching. Homework will be appropriate to the age, ability and circumstances of all our pupils, taking into account special educational needs so that pupils with these needs are not left out or overburdened.

In Years 12 and 13 the amount will depend on a student's individual programmes. However, each student and their parents/carers will be given guidance on what has to be achieved and how much time this will take.

Each department will monitor tasks that are set to ensure that:

- They are wide-ranging and structured.
- Their purpose is explained to pupils.
- They are monitored regularly and marked in line with the school's assessment policies, which will be revised regularly.
- Their quality and that of completed homework is monitored and reviewed at regular periods.
- Pupils and parents get regular feedback and are consulted from time to time.

## **Staff responsibilities**

Teachers are expected to:

- Set homework of appropriate duration at the time specified in the homework timetable.
- Set differentiated tasks that provide a suitable challenge for all pupils in a class.
- Avoid setting homework in the final few minutes of a lesson.
- Avoid the regular setting of 'finish classwork' type work as a homework task.

Teachers are not expected to mark every piece of homework, nor are they expected to always set formal written tasks. Teachers are expected to monitor the completion of homework by pupils. The following list gives an indication of the range of tasks that might be set:

- Investigations and simple experiments.
- Research.
- Reading more about a topic rather than revising notes already given.
- Drawing and designing.
- Interviews and surveys.
- Word processing.
- Essay writing or drafting reports.
- Making a model
- Preparation for controlled assessments

Heads of Department are expected to:

- Lead their teams in discussing and developing homework tasks.
- Monitor the setting of homework by all members of their team.
- Monitor the quality and appropriateness of homework set by the members of their team.
- Report on the efficacy of their arrangements for homework in their annual review to governors.

Tutors are expected to:

- Ensure that the members of their tutor groups understand the homework timetable and how the school expects the homework record book to be organised.

## **Pupil responsibilities**

Pupils will need to:

- Demonstrate a commitment to spending an allocated time doing the tasks set.
- Complete homework tasks to the best of their ability within the appropriate length of time
- Hand the work back on time either in class or the appropriate collecting place.
- Pupils should get in to the habit of doing homework on the night it is set and designating a regular homework time.

## **Parental responsibilities**

Parents, carers or guardians, and those in Boarding supporting prep, will encourage and monitor homework by:

- Providing a reasonably quiet, suitable place in which their son can do their homework (as far as possible).
- Making it clear to their son that they value homework and support the school in explaining how homework can help them make progress at school.
- Encouraging their son and praising them when they have completed their homework for their effort.
- Expecting deadlines to be met and checking that they are.

Parents/carers should always inform the school if an issue arises.

**Monitoring and evaluation**

This policy will be monitored regularly by governors to ensure that it reflects any changes in legislation and will be evaluated in the light of any parental concerns.

**Reviewing**

The school will review this policy annually to assess its implementation and effectiveness.

Approved by:	Curriculum & Standards Committee
Date:	3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2018
To be reviewed	November 2020