

Homework FAQs for parents

How do I find out what homework my child needs to complete?

Log on to your Class Charts account and click on your child's name. You can then select homework and will be able to view the tasks set for your child. There is also a homework timetable printed at the front of your child's knowledge organiser which tells them the three subjects they need to work on each evening.

On the Year 9 and 10 timetables, there is Option A, B, C, D. What does this mean?

There are 4 option blocks (A, B, C and D) on the timetable. These are the subjects the students chose to study when they were in year 8. Students should have been told which option block they are in for each subject and should now have this written on to their timetable at the front of their knowledge organiser. They can find this information by looking at the class code on their lesson timetable – for example, if the class code for History is 9B/Hi1 this means that they are in option block B for History.

My child is worried about nights when they have clubs after school. How can they complete their homework?

They should plan ahead. If a student knows that they will have trouble completing their homework, they can use the library at lunchtime to complete some of their homework. Students can view their homework by the due date on Class Charts so if they know a particular evening is going to be difficult, they can complete their homework in advance. Students must be able to show their completed homework to their tutor on the day it is due to be checked but they can have completed it the day before – just make sure that they put the correct date (the date it was meant to be completed).

What are compulsory catch up sessions?

If your child does not complete their homework, they will be placed into a same day compulsory catch up session where they will be expected to complete their missing homework. These will take place from 3.15 – 4.00pm.

If students fail to attend, they will be placed into an extended catch-up session with Miss Sherwood on Friday after school from 3.15 – 4.30pm.

Any student who fails to attend this session will be placed into the reset room for 24 hours.

How will I know if my child has been given a compulsory catch up?

You will be notified by text message by 11am.

What do the students do if they take extra English and maths instead of MFL? There is no KO for them.

Students who do not study a language should complete additional Maths and English homework.

How can I help my child to complete their homework?

There are lots of ways in which parents can support with homework:

- Encourage them! Talk to your child about what they are learning. Ask them to explain it to you.
- Provide your child with a quiet space in which to complete their work.
- Keep an eye on the time they are spending working. Students in year 7 and 8 are expected to spend 20 minutes per subject; students in year 9 and 10 are expected to spend 30 minutes per subject. Please don't allow your child to spend hours completing their homework. We have given them enough time to complete what is asked of them.
- Be positive about the homework. This system has been designed to benefit students.

I don't really understand what my child has been asked to do. Where can I find more information?

There is a video on the school website which models how we would like students to complete their homework. This can be found by clicking on the school life tab and then homework.

There is also a self-quizzing guide at the front of the knowledge organiser which tells students how to do it.

If you are unsure about a specific subject, please contact your child's subject teacher for guidance.

My child has only been asked to learn 5 key words – how can this be expected to fill a whole page?

We have been training students in the following process:

- Students write out only the key words from the knowledge organiser.
- They then put their pens down and study each of the definitions associated with the words.
- When they are confident that they know them, students should close their knowledge organiser and attempt to write out each definition from memory.
- They should then re-open their knowledge organiser and self-mark (in green pen) their work: correcting any spelling mistakes, filling in any information they have missed.
- Students cover their work and repeat this process at least once (if not twice) more.

This should fill a page but if not, students can also use the information to produce mind-maps, revision cards or create mnemonics. There is information on this in the self-quizzing guide at the front of the knowledge organiser.

My child has an EHCP – what homework are they expected to complete?

There is a tariff system in operation.

Students on Tariff A only complete homework for Maths, English and Science

Students on Tariff B complete homework in Maths, English, Science and other agreed subjects.

If your child is on one of these tariffs, you will be contacted by a member of the SEND team to discuss this. We will also ask you to sign your child's homework book to show that they have spent the required amount of time on their homework.

