



HOME LEARNING POLICY

Introduction

Christleton High School is a vibrant, enthusiastic, forward thinking and safe learning environment in which students are given every opportunity to complete a fulfilling High School education.

At Christleton High School, we believe that Home Learning (commonly referred to in this policy as homework) plays an important part in a student's education. The benefit of doing homework shall be instilled at an early age so that independent study will be enhanced. It is school policy that appropriate homework shall be set regularly for all students.

Home Learning supports the development of independent learning skills and the effective use of time and is used to reinforce classwork and encourage positive study habits, as well as to consolidate and/or extend learning and allow evaluation of student progress.

Students have opportunities and experiences outside of school that are equally important in developing and enriching their lives and so we shall give careful consideration to ensuring homework remains well-balanced across the school.

This policy shall be reviewed annually or more frequently where required changes are apparent.

Aims

Christleton High School's Home Learning Policy aims to:

- Make sure that teaching staff, parents and students are aware of their responsibilities with regard to homework and actively input.
- Ensure that parents have clarity on what their child is expected to do.
- Encourage students to develop the responsibility and self-discipline required for independent study.
- Support students' learning experiences via revision and reinforcement.
- Ensure appropriate homework is set and completed.
- Promote the use of Assessment to Support Learning (ASL). Home Learning shall be a valuable part of the learning process.
- Work with parents and involve them in their child's learning and to keep them informed about the work their child is covering.
- Use homework as a tool for raising standards of attainment.
- Improve the quality of the learning experiences by extending it beyond the classroom.
- Give students further practice and deeper understanding of skills, knowledge and concepts learned during the school day.

Each Department has a guidance policy/statement relating to home learning, (this could be included within existing schemes of work or a separate standalone summary). The policy/guidance should detail when each class/year group should be set home learning, for how long and different types of home learning and how this fits within the assessment pattern of the subject. This will differ according to the subject area. Some departments will set home learning each week or fortnightly, whereas others may set more project based home learning, once every half term.

The aims and detail of each department policy/statement should be known by all staff teaching in that department. Department home learning be reviewed in the annual department SEF and during other regular quality assurance processes, e.g. lesson observations, learning walks.

It is the responsibility of the Head of Department to ensure that home learning is set and adheres to the following key principles.

- **Home learning should be purposeful and integral to the scheme of work, developing the scheme and enhancing its variety – see appendix one for key criteria**
- **Home learning should only be set when relevant and/or necessary.**
- **Home learning should be differentiated to allow all students access to appropriate areas of the curriculum ensuring that no child is left behind.**
- Home learning should include tasks designed to encourage independence and self-motivation.
- Student access to resources should be considered in the design and allocation of home learning tasks, in particular, the use of ICT.
- Assistance and advice should be sought from Student Services wherever appropriate.
- Subject teachers should ensure that home learning set is recorded in Student Planners and Sims
- Students should get regular feedback on the standards of quality of home learning
- Home learning should be recognised by teachers, students and parents/carers as an integral and important part of the curriculum.
- Appreciation should be shown during examination periods and home learning should only be set where appropriate, if at all, as it is expected that students will be revising.
- Each Department should plan and offer curriculum home learning support sessions where necessary.
- Each Department should reward students for good effort or achievement in home learning, just as class learning is rewarded as per school policy
- Each Department should sanction students for non-completion of expected home learning. An opportunity to hand in late home learning should be given once, and, after discussion about why it has not been completed, a second opportunity given within a tight timescale – e.g. the next morning or lesson. If home learning is still not completed, a department detention should normally be set unless there are exceptional circumstances. The work should still be completed unless this task becomes superfluous after the missed learning opportunity.
- Teachers should keep a record of missing home learning so it can be shared with heads of year and parents

Responsibilities

Role and responsibility of the SLT and Governing Body

- Frequently check compliance with the policy.
- Monitor the effectiveness of the policy.
- Review the policy every year and make appropriate updates as required.
- Discuss with staff how far the Policy is being implemented.
- Meet with parents as appropriate.
- Support parents with information about homework.
- Inform new parents about the Home Learning Policy.

Roles and responsibility of the Class Teacher

- Plan and set up a regular programme of Home Learning for students.
- Provide an explanation of Home Learning tasks and ensure all students understand what they have to do.
- Ensure all homework given is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum.
- Set homework that is appropriate to the child's ability.
- Monitor Home Learning regularly and make sure students are completing it.
- Mark (or arrange for peer or self-assessment marking of) homework and give feedback to students.
- Communicate with parents if there is a problem regarding homework.
- Be available for discussion if necessary to parents and students about homework.
- Set homework that is consistent across classes.
- Ensure Home Learning takes equal opportunities into account and that the needs of students with disabilities are considered.
- Reward quality work and praise children who regularly complete Home Learning.
- Record homework on the Sims and direct students to record learning in their Home Learning Planner.

Roles and responsibility of Head of Department and Heads of Year:

It is essential that the amount, regularity and quality of home learning can be monitored. The initial process and responsibility should lie in the department. However, the Achievement and Care Team will support departments for persistent lack of completion of home learning, including coursework.

Roles and responsibility of students:

- To write down tasks and deadlines in their planners
- To take responsibility for their own learning and submit home learning tasks on or before the deadline set to the best of their ability
- To catch up with home learning tasks when absent, so learning and progress are not missed or compromised
- Have a positive approach towards Home Learning and put the same effort into Home Learning as would be expected of class work, taking pride in the presentation and content of their homework and perform to the highest personal standard they can.
- Make sure they understand the tasks that have been set and seek clarification if required.
- Ensure that they have everything they need to complete Home Learning and return to school all books and materials needed to complete their homework.

Role and responsibilities of Parent/Carer:

- Support and encourage their child in completing Home Learning by taking an active interest in their child's work and provide a reasonable place where students can work, or encourage them to make use of the school facilities.
- Make sure that their child completes homework on time and to the highest standard they can and check planners for work set and deadlines in order to help this process
- Praise their child and celebrate achievements with regard to their homework.
- Inform teachers of any issues that may arise and co-operate with the school to find a solution.
- Keep the school informed of any change in circumstances which may affect their child's learning and homework.
- Encourage their child to discuss homework with the relevant teacher and to seek feedback
- Check the homework set, sign Home learning planner and monitor performance regularly
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HOME LEARNING FOR SEN STUDENTS

The Home Learning Policy for the School allows Departments discretion in the provision of home learning for all students. It is important to bear in mind the nature and timing of home learning for SEN students. Students with SEN may have difficulties regarding home learning. Teachers should ensure that work is differentiated for their level. Teaching Assistants can assist in ensuring that students make an accurate record of home learning in their planner. Failure to complete differentiated home learning should be referred to Student Support as well as sanctioned. They will advise as to appropriate sanctions or support. Parents/carers will be contacted regarding support for home learning which will include working in Student Support for After School Home learning Club, where help with home learning is available.

Absences

- If the child is absent from school due to illness or medical reasons, the school will normally supply work for these periods as students should be well enough to undertake work. In some cases, there may be exceptions to this rule and the school shall decide whether this is acceptable or not. It is also expected that students complete any home learning tasks set during their absence, albeit with an amended deadline date.
- If the child is absent for a long period of time, e.g. with a broken arm, the teacher and the parent of the child will agree on the best means to maintain learning in line with expectation.

Marking of homework

- Homework shall be marked in accordance with the school/department feedback and marking policy.
- Teachers shall not mark homework that is handed in late unless accompanied with a parent/carer's note explaining acceptable reasons.

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Reviewed by Darran Jones on 16 June 2021