



SOUTH WILTS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

SCHOOL AIMS

South Wilts is a progressive grammar school, which aims to maintain high academic standards and cultural achievement within a caring environment. We seek to encourage responsibility and personal fulfilment so that students attain their maximum potential. The School is dynamic and works with the community to prepare its students for life-long learning and adult independence.

South Wilts Grammar School values and respects all students equally and aims to provide equality of opportunity wherever possible.

South Wilts is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The school fulfils its responsibilities as laid out in the following key documents: Working Together to Safeguard Children, Keeping Children Safe in Education and the procedures of the Safeguarding Vulnerable People Partnership.

Safeguarding links/ risks associated with this policy: Teachers must carefully consider the work they are setting for homework ensuring it is in accordance with the Appropriate Teaching Material Policy.

HOMEWORK POLICY

We believe that the regular setting and feedback of homework is associated with good education and effective learning with meaningful tasks allowing students to extend their learning. Students should be aided in the organisation of this work by clear systems and routines.

AIMS

Homework should:

- consolidate and reinforce knowledge, understanding and skills developed at school, enabling learning to be reviewed and revised
- ensure tasks set extend learning and challenge students' thinking
- develop research and study skills, confidence and motivation needed to study independently
- prepare for future learning
- managing particular demands, such as GCSE and A Level coursework
- provide opportunities to parents or carers in the students' learning.

GUIDELINES

1. Homework should be clearly defined with targets given and be achievable, at the highest level, in terms of the time and resources required.
2. Homework should be purposeful in the academic demands made on individual students and relevant to the scheme of work.
3. Homework should, if appropriate, be responded to and marked promptly and meaningfully in accordance with the assessment policy of the school, with an indication of when work will be returned being given, as per the learning charter.

4. Homework should be entered by the student in their homework diaries in Years 7 to 11. Sixth form students are advised to use either a homework diary or equivalent to record their homework.
5. In Years 7-11 the homework timetable should be used as a guide to the night on which homework could be set in each subject. Homework will be set to be completed on the evening following the lesson. Where this is not possible an alternative evening will be allocated as per the homework timetable. A homework deadline of the next day will not be set.
6. Time guidelines are set for the maximum duration of each piece of homework in Years 7-11. In Year 7 each homework should be no more than 20 minutes in length for the first half term and extending to no more than 30 minutes from Term 2. All homework in Years 8 and 9 will be no more than 30 minutes in length. At Key Stage 4 each homework should be no more than 40 minutes in duration. The support of parents / carers in helping students to adhere to this is appreciated. *Please see Appendix 1.*
7. In the sixth form students are expected to show greater independence in the organisation of their time. Homework duration and deadlines will vary as appropriate, with students also being expected to use their time outside the classroom to independently extend their own learning in a self-directed way.
8. Homework will be assigned through Microsoft Teams. This allows students to access all the relevant materials to assist with the completion of the task(s) set as well as notifying the students of the deadline of the assignment. Students may be asked to upload work onto MS Teams as a means to handing in work.
9. If a student is unable to meet a deadline due to extraordinary circumstances they should see the teacher before the lesson, as per the learning charter. An extension of a day can be given if homework is forgotten occasionally. Teachers should use their professional discretion if work is not completed on time for genuine reasons; consideration will also be given to Year 7 students in the early stages of their career at South Wilts until they are confident with the routines and demands of an academic environment.
10. If homework is not presented on time without prior consultation then the teacher should record this in the student's book or homework diary. Students will attend a departmental lunchtime detention to complete the work or other appropriate task. If homework is not done to a good enough standard students can be asked to repeat it, and this could be undertaken in a departmental detention.
10. Parents / carers should check and sign the diaries every week. The diary can be used for messages, observations or problems to the subject teacher or the tutor.
11. Tutors will check and sign the diaries every fortnight.
12. An after-school detention will be given if a student is given more than two departmental detentions for missing homework.
13. If it is apparent that a student is having difficulty in organisation then extra support will be given as appropriate by the Tutor, Head of Section or by the Pastoral Support Manager. Issues will be discussed with parents if necessary. It is helpful if parents / carers communicate with one of these individuals if there are issues at home that may affect a student's ability to cope with their homework.

14. For some students we know that working at home may be more difficult, and finding a quiet place in which to study and work is not always straightforward. For those students, the LRC and IT rooms can be used before school, at lunchtime and also after school. Students in the Sixth Form can also use the Sixth Form Common room at those times.
15. Each department will monitor tasks that are set to ensure that:
 - Homework is wide-ranging and structured
 - The purpose of the homework is explained to students
 - The homework is monitored regularly and marked in line with the Assessment and Reporting policy (where appropriate)
 - The quality of completed homework is monitored and reviewed at regular periods
 - Students get regular feedback and are consulted from time to time
16. Teachers are expected to:
 - Set homework of appropriate duration at the time specified in the homework timetable and achievable within the time specified above.
 - Set tasks that provide a suitable challenge for all students in a class
 - Allow a reasonable time for the completion of homework tasks.
 - Clarify the purpose of homework, including how the students will receive feedback on the piece of work or how the piece of work will be used.
 - Ensure that students have been assigned the homework through MS Teams and where relevant, the time the homework should take to be completed.
 - Monitor the completion of homework in the next lesson.
 - Provide feedback in line with the Assessment and Reporting Policy.
17. Head of Department are expected to:
 - Lead their teams in discussing and developing suitable homework tasks
 - Monitor the setting of homework by all members of their team against the expectations set out in this policy
 - Monitor the quality and appropriateness of homework set by the members of their team to ensure consistency amongst the department
 - Evaluate the quality of homework in the department in line with the Homework Policy.
18. Tutors are expected to:
 - Ensure that members of their tutor groups understand the homework timetable and how the school expects the student planner to be organised. This is especially important for KS3
 - Ensure that all members of their tutor group write their homework timetables in their student planner
 - Monitor student planners to check that students are appropriately organised for their subject lessons
 - Be aware of any student's home circumstances that make the completion of homework difficult, and encourage such students to work in school where possible
 - Support students in their time management and organisation for homework
19. Students will need to:
 - Record homework in their student planner and ensure they understand the homework tasks, asking questions if they are unsure

- Always have their student planner with them and get it signed at home by a parent/carer every week
- 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, and not spending unnecessary long periods of time on a topic.
- Hand in or submit the homework in on time
- Get in to the habit of doing homework on the night it is set and designating a regular homework time.

20. Parents will encourage and monitor homework by:

- Providing a reasonably quiet, suitable place in which their children can do their homework (as far as possible)
- Making it clear to their children that they value homework and support the school in explaining how homework can help them make progress at school
- Encouraging their child/children and praising them when they have completed their homework
- Expecting deadlines to be met and checking that they are
- Supporting their child/children by setting timings for pieces of work to stop them from overworking
- Signing the student planner once a week.
- Inform the school if an issues arises, either through the student planner or by direct contact with the form tutor or Head of Year.

21. Rewards and Sanctions will be given to students based on the quality of homework completed or failure to complete work effectively and/or by the deadline.

22. Monitoring, evaluation and review

- The implementation of this policy will be monitored regularly by the senior leadership team to ensure that it remains relevant and fit for purpose and will be evaluation in the light of any concerns.

23. The school will review this policy to assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

Related policies:

Curriculum Policy

Assessment and Reporting Policy

Feedback Policy

Students Behaviour and Sanctions Policy

APPENDIX 1 - KS3 Homework timetable; allocation of homework by subject

Year 7

Subject	No of lessons per fortnight	Homework frequency
Maths	6	Twice weekly
Science	6	Weekly
English	6	Weekly
DT	3	Weekly
Computing	3	Fortnightly
Geography	3	Fortnightly
Music	3	Fortnightly
RS	3	Fortnightly
Art	3	Fortnightly
History	3	Fortnightly
French/German	42/2	Weekly*
Drama	2	None
PSHE	2	None
PE	3	None

* May be given as one 30 minute task or two 15 minutes tasks

Year 8

Subject	No of lessons per fortnight	Homework frequency
Maths	7	Twice weekly
Science	7	Weekly
English	7	Weekly
DT	3	Weekly
Computing	2	Fortnightly
Geography	2	Fortnightly
Music	2	Fortnightly
RS	2	Fortnightly
Art	2	Fortnightly
History	2	Fortnightly
French/German/Spanish	2/2/3	Weekly*
Drama	2	None
PSHE	2	None
PE	3	None

* May be given as one 30 minute task or two 15 minutes tasks

Year 9

Subject	No of lessons per fortnight	Homework frequency
Maths	7	Twice weekly
Biology	3	Fortnightly
Chemistry	2	Fortnightly
Physics	2	Fortnightly
English	7	Weekly
DT	3	Weekly
Computing	2	Fortnightly
Geography	2	Fortnightly
Music	2	Fortnightly
RS	2	Fortnightly
Art	2	Fortnightly
History	2	Fortnightly
French	3 or 4	Weekly*
German	3 or 4	Weekly*
Drama	2	None
PSHE	2	None
PE	3	None

* May be given as one 30 minute task or two 15 minutes tasks

Reviewed by	Date of Review / approval	Review cycle	Next Review Date	Statutory / Non statutory	Website
Curriculum	Autumn 2024	3 Yearly	Autumn 2027	Yes	Yes