

<b>Policy Title:</b>	Homework
<b>Function:</b>	For Information and Guidance - Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Homework not only reinforces classroom learning, it also helps students to develop skills and attitudes they need for successful lifelong learning. It promotes independent learning skills, including the habits of inquiry and investigation.
<b>Status:</b>	Recommended
<b>Audience:</b>	Students, Parents, Governors, Principal, Teachers, Support Staff, Local Authority
<b>Ownership / Implementation:</b>	The Principal and the Governing Body have overall responsibility for ensuring that this policy is implemented.
<b>Version:</b>	V1.0
<b>Issued for:</b>	
<b>Date for Review:</b>	2010

# THE OXFORD ACADEMY

The Oxford Academy is a learning environment at the heart of its community. We promote care and respect, and expect high standards in all aspects of Academy life.

We aim to build a community clearly based on a Christian ethos, recognising the integrity and the unique value of each individual. We aim to build self-esteem, model conflict resolution and protect the vulnerable. We are committed to justice and compassion. Mutual respect and trust are central within the Academy.

Our vision for The Oxford Academy is based on the following beliefs:

- Education matters in society: the provision of a well ordered, stimulating learning environment is a common right for all our children.
- The Academy should articulate social and moral values and respect for others, irrespective of their class, sex, race or religion.
- The Academy will promote the highest achievement in youngsters, irrespective of their abilities or self-expectations. Competition and collaboration are both equally important to learning. The aspirations of all our students will be nurtured.
- The Academy will celebrate students' achievements and challenge fixed notions of ability. We will value and reward young people's verbal, practical, academic, sporting, artistic and leadership skills.
- An effective and flourishing Academy should be 'public' rather than 'private', explaining to parents what is being taught and how the curriculum is being interpreted. It should be open to praise and constructive feedback in a genuine spirit of partnership.
- An effective Academy should work closely with neighbouring schools to improve opportunities for children and young people.
- The work of the Academy will be underpinned at all times by its ultimate aim – to improve standards, achievement and the life chances of young people. The Oxford Academy is to be, first and foremost, a place of high quality learning and teaching for young people aged 11-19.

This policy, and its associated procedures and protocols, is based on these key principles.

# THE OXFORD ACADEMY

## Homework Policy

### 1. Introduction

The Academy believes learning at home is an essential part of good education.

### 2 Purpose

- 2.1 Homework not only reinforces classroom learning, it also helps students to develop skills and attitudes they need for successful lifelong learning. It promotes independent learning skills, including the habits of inquiry and investigation.

### 3 Effectiveness of homework

3.1 Homework is most effective when:

- i tasks are structured and their purpose is clearly explained to students;
- ii there is consistent practice across the school;
- iii homework is given regularly so that everyone knows what to expect each week;
- iv homework is recorded in the planner provided;
- v pupils and parents/guardians are clear about what they need to do
- vi there are high expectations;
- vii pupils receive clear feedback;
- viii homework policies are monitored and evaluated.

3.2 At secondary level, research recommends that the time spent on homework or GCSE coursework should fall within the following ranges:

3.3 **Years 7 and 8** - 45 minutes to 1 hour 30 minutes per day. This translates to approximately 25 minutes per subject per night.

3.4 **Year 9** - 1 to 2 hours per day. Approximately 40 minutes per subject per night.

3.5 **Years 10 and 11** - 1 hour 30 minutes to 2 hours 30 minutes per day. Approximately 1 hour per subject per night. Please note that homework will increase in frequency and duration when GCSE coursework is due and exams approach.

3.6 For the Academy homework policy to be successful, it is expected that:

The Academy will:

- Provide homework planners.
- Create a fair homework timetable.
- Give clear guidelines for teachers and students.
- Provide computer room and library access.
- Contact parents if students are not doing homework.
- Review the policy periodically to assess its effectiveness.

The teachers will:

- Set homework regularly according to the timetable and departmental policies.
- Clearly explain assignments and monitor homework planners.
- Mark work promptly with appropriate feedback.
- Contact parents with problems.
- Give rewards and impose sanctions.

The students will:

- Record all homework given in their planners.
- Ensure they understand the task by asking the teachers.
- Organise sufficient time to do the work.
- Demonstrate a commitment to homework.
- Produce quality work.
- Hand completed work in on time.

Parents/guardians will:

- Provide a quiet place for homework to be done.
- Encourage students to complete quality homework.
- Monitor homework planners.
- Contact teachers with any problems.

## **4. Participation**

4.1 The Academy believes that the highest level of participation in homework can be maintained with the use of the following rewards and sanctions:

### **Rewards:**

- Students will receive merits for exceptional work.
- Exemplar homework will be shared with the class.
- Quality homework assignments and projects will be put on display.

### **Sanctions:**

- Graduated sanctions will apply if the homework is handed in late.
- Graduated sanction will apply if a student fails to complete or hand in a homework assignment.

- More regular concerns will result in the student's parents being contacted by the appropriate staff.
- Detentions are part of the Academy structure of consequences.

### **Monitoring, Evaluation and Review**

The Governing Body will review this policy at least every two years and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the Academy.