

# HOMEWORK POLICY inc Home School Agreement



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# 1. HOMEWORK

## **Why do we have homework at Heanor Gate Science College?**

Homework serves to not only improve educational attainment but also to develop independent learning skills in our students. It teaches them self-discipline which will allow them to achieve more once they leave school.

We believe that homework is important to:

1. Allow practice and consolidation of work done in class.
2. Allow preparation for future class work (flipped learning).
3. Developing skills in using libraries and other learning resources through independent research tasks.
4. Training for pupils in planning and organising time.
5. Developing good habits and self-discipline.
6. Encouraging ownership and responsibility for learning.

Completing homework allows students to continue their learning and to prepare for future learning. It also allows cooperation between the school and parents. The support of parents/carers is absolutely essential and they are asked to take an interest in the standard and presentation of the work submitted whilst encouraging independent learning.

## **Setting & monitoring the completion of homework**

The use of the Show My Homework online platform will allow a better dialogue and level of cooperation between the school; students and parents. All members of staff, students and parents have a login to the website. This allows full transparency as parents can see what is being set and teachers can see if it is being accessed and completed. Students have access to their homework tasks and extra resources that have been provided by their teachers.

Students should not consider that one piece of homework is more important than another and should try as hard as they can with all subjects. To avoid overloading students, teachers will give as much time as possible for students to complete their homework and will not set work that must be completed for the following day.

## **Types of homework**

There is not a “one-size fits all” policy to homework at Heanor Gate. We know that what is appropriate in one key stage may not be appropriate in another. The type of homework must also be appropriate for the subject and so all subjects are free to set their own type and amount of homework. Below is a grid which shows the frequency, time and the type of tasks that may be used.

## How can you help your child with homework?

Type of Homework	What your child does...	...and what you could do with your child
<b>Learning</b>	The job is to remember certain words, facts, details or rules.	Act as a tester.
<b>Completing</b>	Work already started in school is to be finished at home.	Look at the whole piece of work and perhaps make useful comments. Ask what the whole task is about.
<b>Writing up</b>	Your child will use homework time to write about work done in school or write a finished version of rough work done in school.	Again, look at the whole piece or, even better, talk about it briefly first, to get the work clearly ingrained in your child's mind and jog his/her memory.
<b>Questions</b>	A matter of answering questions after a lesson's work.	Check the answers. Do they give the exact information wanted in the questions?
<b>Research</b>	Searching for information on a given subject. Part of this homework might be done in the school library/resource centre in the student's own time.	Don't do too much for them here! But encourage and help when they are stuck. It is obviously better to suggest where they might find the information than find it for them.
<b>Revision</b>	Quite simply a matter of learning a section of work for a test or an examination.	Get your child to explain the work to you. You ask the questions once they are ready. You can even 'mark' the answers if you like.
<b>Reading ahead</b>	Reading on ahead in a text book to get some ideas of what work is to come - and be ready for it.	Be aware of what they are doing in the subject at the moment; be interested in what he/she has found out.

## 2. HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT

### THE SCHOOL'S AGREEMENT

We will do our best to:

- offer your child care and guidance to help him/her mature and achieve his/her full potential in all aspects of school life
- provide an appropriate curriculum to meet your child's needs and to enable him/her to achieve the maximum possible success in public examinations
- help your child to develop a sense of responsibility and to be considerate so that he/she may become a full and active member of the community
- keep you informed about school matters to do with your child's progress, success or any concerns we may have
- offer you, whenever possible, the opportunity to play an active part in your child's learning and in school life

### THE PARENT'S/CARER'S AGREEMENT

I/we will do my/our best to:

- ensure that my/our child comes to school regularly, on time and with all the equipment he/she needs and appropriately dressed according to school policy
- inform the school of any issues which may affect his/her work or behaviour
- support him/her with reading and other home learning activities following guidance offered by the school
- attend parents' evenings and other discussions about my/our child's progress; support school policies and rules
- acknowledge and treat the teachers as professionals
- encourage my/our child to become independent and look after his/her own belongings
- encourage my/our child to treat everyone and everything within school with respect and consideration at all times
- ensure that any absences are notified to school promptly

### THE STUDENT'S AGREEMENT

- I will come to school every day and I will be on time
- I will work to the best of my ability, follow instructions given to me and listen to the teachers and those around me
- I will be on my best behaviour and follow the school rules. I will remember all of my equipment
- I will look after the school environment and care for the people in it
- I will try to get the best from Heanor Gate both in the classroom and from all of the activities organised by the school
- I will show respect for teachers, staff & fellow students

**SIGNED:**

<b>Student</b>	<b>Parent/Carer</b>	<b>Tutor</b>