



Soham Village College

Homework Policy

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Workload:	

Soham Village College Homework Policy

Soham Village College believes all homework set should be meaningful and positively impact a student's progress. What form this homework takes varies vastly from subject to subject as what works for one subject is not necessarily best for another. To ensure this happens across the school, faculties or departments must have their own policy that complies with Soham Village College's guidance set out in this policy.

1. **IMPACT:** Homework must be challenging, meaningful and help students make progress through consolidation, deepening understanding or preparing them very well for work to come. No one is better placed than the Head of Subject to make this judgement. If this is an area which requires development, they should seek guidance on how to improve this from their line manager. The rationale for a department's policy must be clear and all teachers should understand it.
2. **DIFFERENTIATED:** Homework must be differentiated and appropriate for the student for whom it is set.
3. **REGULAR:** Homework must be **consistently** set across the department by **all** teachers so that all students have the same experience. It must be explicit to all teachers in the department where homework should be set.
4. **MONITORING:** There must be a means of monitoring this so that a Head of Subject can show evidence that teachers are setting homework in accordance with the department policy.
5. **HOW LONG IT SHOULD TAKE:** Homework for a subject should take a student at KS3 approximately 30 - 60 minutes per fortnight (if they are seen about 2-3 times a week by a teacher) – this can be allocated in any way the Head of Subject sees fit. At KS4 this can increase to 60 – 120 minutes per fortnight (from 2019-20).
6. **TIME TO DO IT:** Students must be given sufficient time to complete a task. It must be very clearly given in class with no ambiguity about when it is due or what is required.
7. **HOMEWORK SETTING.** All homework will, in the majority of cases, be recorded on Go4Schools. Any homework or sanctions must be made explicit to students. There must be good information so that students of all abilities can access the task and time for them to record the information in planners.
8. **MARKING:** Homework must be marked by either a peer, self, teacher or other electronic means. It should be marked promptly.
9. **RECORDING HOMEWORK:** Homework points should be recorded in line with school behaviour policy. Teachers must have a means of recording homework completion for their class to ensure they know who has done it and who hasn't, who has been late etc (this can be paper or electronic) to allow them to record on Go4Schools any repeat offenders accurately and report with confidence on how well a student is doing their homework
10. **SANCTIONS:** Where no reasonable explanation is forthcoming follow the procedure outlined below. This is the system for the whole year so a student has a second chance only once in the year. Strikes refer to separate homework, not the same one e.g. if a teacher asks a student to redo a homework and it is not done then this would now count as a second piece of HW not done

When issuing a detention, a student must be in **no doubt** that a detention has been given to them. It might be useful to write into a student's planner 'HW det, time, place'. Whatever system you use to record detentions issued, completed or missed, it must be robust.

Department/Faculty policies must be approved by ES and centrally saved on the system in L:staff General\Homework policy with 'subject name HW policy' e.g. SCIENCE HW policy

Roles and responsibilities

Teacher

The class teacher is responsible for ensuring that they know their department homework policy and that it is applied consistently. They must ensure students complete all homework to an acceptable standard and follow the sanction system if necessary.

Subject Leader

Subject leaders will produce a department policy that sits under this one. They will have identified when and at what point in a topic they expect homework to be set. They will have communicated this clearly to their team. They are responsible for organising a system in their department for tracking homework so that it can be monitored and to ensure sanctions are being issued where necessary. They are responsible for organising and managing a faculty detention system that fits with the school one.

SLT link

The SLT link will monitor the homework set in a department with the subject head. They will challenge practice that they think is not rigorous and ensure action has been taken if necessary. They will also help the subject lead to continue to develop their homework policy and look to improve the quality of homework set in the future.

Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning

The Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning will meet with all subject leaders to agree subject-specific interpretations of the policy. These will be agreed in writing. In addition to the responsibilities of an SLT link, the Assistant Principal will oversee the delivery of the policy by all departments. They will also monitor students who repeatedly miss homework in a range of subjects through Go4Schools in liaison with heads of year and the data manager. The Assistant Principal will ensure that current performance and improvements are communicated effectively to Advisory Body members through liaison with the Advisory Body members with links to subjects and through feedback at Advisory Body meetings.

Principal/Advisory Body members

The Principal and Advisory Body members are responsible for ensuring that homework arrangements are implemented in accordance with the current legal requirement of the Education Reform Act 1988 and all subsequent legislation.

SANCTION SYSTEM FOR HOMEWORK

FIRST STRIKE: Teacher

First strike: Homework not complete. Record -1 and an immediate short detention at either break or lunch set by the teacher **OR** the student has genuinely forgotten it at home for the first time against an otherwise perfect track record. Issue a -1 and give them a second chance to submit the next day, if they forget move to second strike

SECOND STRIKE: Faculty

Second strike: Student forgets homework for a second time it should be recorded as -1 and given a Faculty Long Detention

THIRD STRIKE: Faculty

Third strike: -1 homework point Faculty after School Detention for 45 minutes. Faculty Head to organise the system

FOURTH STRIKE: Whole School

Fourth strike: Referral to Head of Year and/SLT link. Contact parents, manage a way forwards. Possibly a mandatory attendance of homework club at lunchtime.

Failure to attend detention:
Issue Faculty Long
Detention

Failure to attend Faculty
long detention Issue
Faculty afterschool
detention

Failure to attend Faculty
long detention HoF/D Pass
on to Exclusion room