

## Astrea Academy Dearne: Homework Policy 2022

### **Rationale**

Homework is important as it supports students to develop retention and consolidate subject knowledge. Studies have shown that students who frequently complete homework achieve better outcomes (GCSE grades) than those that do not complete additional work. Students at our school are significantly behind students in other similar schools to ours, and as a result we need to support students in closing these gaps and making rapid improvements in their progress across all subjects. This can be done by using homework to recap current learning as well as recalling previous learning and applying this knowledge to new topics.

### **Definition of homework**

Homework will be defined as:

**Work completed independently in addition to work completed in the classroom.**

### **Setting of homework**

Homework will be set for each subject once per week (apart from music and drama, which at key stage 3 will be set once per fortnight).

Homework tasks in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 should take at least 30 minutes to complete per subject whilst homework tasks in Year 10 and Year 11 should take at least 60 minutes to complete per subject. Homework will be set and completed using the online platform SAM learning, with the exception of maths where Hegarty maths will be used and MFL who will also use 'thisislanguage' and 'memrise' (online platforms) in addition to SAMLearning.

All homework should be set on the displayed days in the table below for all subjects and have at least three days to complete; students will be able to see their homework tasks as they log onto SAM Learning. It will show students which pieces of homework are due and will be listed in the order of soonest to latest deadline.

**For KS4 students in addition** to the online homework tasks and when relevant, the setting of past exam questions/papers can be done using paper copies sent home with children. They should be encouraged to use revision guides as well as SAMLearning to support the completion of these. Records of completion should be kept by classroom teachers, with sanctions and rewards being used in according to those set out in this policy.

### **Key stage 3**

Day	Homework set	Earliest due day
Monday	English and Maths	Thursday
Tuesday	Art, Geography and Science	Friday
Wednesday	History, PE, Drama (week A) music (week B)	Monday
Thursday	Spanish, IT	Tuesday
Friday	French and RE	Wednesday

## Key stage 4

Day	Homework set	Earliest due day
Monday	English	Thursday
Tuesday	Maths,	Friday
Wednesday	Science, Option A subjects (Y10 and Y11)	Monday
Thursday	Option B subjects (Y10 and Y11), <b>Humanities subjects* (Y11)</b>	Tuesday
Friday	<b>Option C*</b> , PE, Y10 humanities subjects	Wednesday

**\*Humanities subjects Y11** history and geography subjects are in option blocks A-C but all homework for Y11 KS4 history and geography classes will be set on a Thursday.

**Option C\*** is for current Y11 students only as there is no option C in Y10.

### Support for students

Students will need access to the internet in order to complete homework and we will support students by opening the library after school every day. Staff will supervise students completing homework independently on SAM Learning until 4pm.

Students wishing to use the area must do so for homework only and use a computer and **not a phone**. Once homework is completed, students will be free to go home to free up computers for others to use.

There will also be opportunities for children to borrow laptops for long periods of time and where necessary apply for additional data through school.

SAM Learning is also now accessible through the use of a mobile phone instead of a desktop or laptop but this **must be done at home and not on school premises**.

### Praise and Rewards for Completion of Homework

#### Homework rewards

Students who complete homework on time will be rewarded through verbal praise, classroom commendations and phone calls, or postcards home.

#### Sanctions for non-completion

All teaching staff are expected to check for the completion and submission of homework from their own classes, including shared classes. If a student misses a homework deadline, the classroom teacher will record this as a behaviour incident in Bromcom and the child will receive an afterschool detention. Staff are expected to make it clear to students that they are to complete their outstanding homework.

### Parental Support

Parents and carers are encouraged to help their child by using the homework club in school so they have support if needed, sitting with their child when they log onto SAM Learning to help prioritise homework tasks and deadlines, reminding their child to frequently look on their SAM Learning dashboard, rather than saving all their homework to complete in one night.