

HOMEWORK POLICY YEAR 8

Summary:

Strangford College has developed a Homework Guide for each individual Year Group.

We believe in the value of effective homework as research shows that well planned and marked homework can make a positive difference to student outcomes.

Policy Number: Jan 2018/3

Revision: 1

Board of Governors

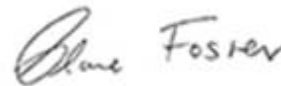
Submission for Ratification:

February 2018.

Chairperson:



Principal:



This policy replaces any previous policies and is valid from:

January 2018

To be reviewed & updated by:

August 2019

By Mrs L McBride



Article 28: You have the right to an education.



Year 8

Homework

Guide

Dear Parent/Guardian

We hope you will find our new homework booklet useful. Starting post primary education can be confusing for parents as well as for children and we have produced this guide to support you at the beginning of our journey together. We believe in the value of effective homework as research shows that well planned and marked homework can make a positive difference to student outcomes.




There are many different types of homework that students are asked to complete as you can see from each of the subjects included in the booklet. Homework will be marked regularly, and students will be encouraged to react to teacher feedback using a purple pen to demonstrate clear marking for improvement. At times, verbal feedback may be given to students on their work.

Helping your child with homework is something we would encourage. This shows young people that you value homework and establishes good behaviours at Key Stage 3. Such habits can then be carried through to later key stages when more independent study is required in preparation for GCSEs and A Levels. If no formal homework is set on a particular day we recommend that all students should spend time reading over their notes and reading for pleasure.

We have Winter and Summer exams and independent homework and revision will help to support the individual success of every student.

Signing the homework planner is also a good way for parents to involve themselves in the school and demonstrate our commitment to working together.

As always, thank you for your support and if there is anything you need or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Homework set</u>
History 	<p>In year 8 students will receive one written homework per fortnight. Each student has a homework booklet which contains most of the written homework that needs to be completed. Topics covered in year 8 include what is history, the Normans in England and Ireland and medieval life. Research and revision homework will be set throughout the year. All homework is marked following the department policy of two stars and one wish, two things the student has done well and one area for improvement. All written homework should be signed by a parent or guardian.</p>
Art & Design 	<p>In Art and Design Year 8 students complete a 1 hour homework each fortnight. It will include topics covered in class, research work and preparation for practical lessons. Each student will receive a Homework List for the year. Each homework is clearly explained by the class teacher and a demonstration or example given during their lesson. Students are to complete practical HWs in their Homework Book and will use a range of art materials. Topics include, Tone, Line, Colour, Texture, Still Life and Sea-shore. A Summer Project is set for class and homework in Term 3 and the theme of this will be set by the teacher. All Homework is marked out of 20.</p>
Home Economics 	<p>Home Economics homework in Year 8 is set regularly and is used to consolidate and extend work completed in the class, for research and to prepare for practical food lessons. Each homework is clearly explained and time is given to note this in pupil planners. Pupils complete all written homework in their HE folders and a variety of types are set across the year including factual recall questions, keywords, research and using data. Preparation for food practical lessons is a key homework task. Items to be brought to school are listed at on the first page of the white recipe booklet. Pupils are required to self-evaluate and identify areas for improvement after practical lessons.</p> <p>Homework topics to include – getting ready to cook, kitchen equipment, weighing and measuring, first aid, family life, types of homes, the eat well guide, key words and preparation for school exams.</p>
French 	<p>French homework in Year 8 will be a combination of speaking, reading and writing tasks to develop these language skills. Studying and memorising vocabulary is an essential element of language learning and this will be set and tested regularly. All students will have a white EXPO 1 workbook and many homework tasks will be set from this. At the end of each unit there is a double page or vocabulary that will have come up in each topic. Furthermore, your child will have a Vocab support booklet for each unit we cover in Year 8 to encourage them to learn their vocabulary as they go along. Pupils will be asked to revise topics including Self, Family, School, Food, Pets, Countries and where they live for language assessments. There will be a range of speaking, listening, reading and writing exams to test all 4 core areas of language learning.</p> <p>Pupils in year 8 will also learn about the culture and background of France. They will focus in particular on the monuments and historical background of Paris. They will have an opportunity to create an artistically inspired homework based on their knowledge of Paris. This will be part of a House competition.</p>

	<p>Pupils are advised not to use online translation devices as we would like them to develop their independent language skills for translation. These translation services are seldom accurate and can misinterpret context.</p>
<p>Geography</p> 	<p>Pupils will be set at least one written homework over the two week teaching cycle. The topics covered this year will include: the geography of NI, the world of work, map skills, geology, the geography of food and ecosystems. Homeworks will be varied and will include written or research tasks.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>Students will be set one batch of online homeworks each week, using www.mymaths.co.uk</p> <p>Students will also be set two short Numeracy homeworks each week aimed at improving and maintaining speed and accuracy with basic arithmetic– these should take no more than 10 minutes each.</p> <p>There may be additional homeworks set, e.g. from the Mathematics Mastery workbook, depending on the current topic.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>Homework will be a mix of tasks to support the classwork projects. For example, students may be asked to listen to a piece of music on the internet (Youtube) to practise towards a performance or complete a written task. Homework tasks may also include work in a theory of music booklet or evaluations of a tracker test. Shorter homeworks will be set once a fortnight, while larger tasks may be over a longer period of time as appropriate.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>Homework in Religious Studies will be set at least once in every two-week cycle. Topics that we will look at in year 8 include the bible, Palestine, the land where Jesus lived, Moses and the Egyptians. Homework will include different tasks and will challenge different skills of the students. Homework tasks will include extensions from class work, practical projects, research tasks and Q&A tasks. Students will be encouraged to revise over their work on evenings when written homework etc. isn't given out.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>Science includes Chemistry, Physics and Biology. Year 8 will be set at least two homeworks over a two week teaching cycle each of approximately 20 minutes' duration. These can include written homework, learning homework, research tasks and activities targeting the development of literacy, numeracy and ICT.</p> <p>On completion of a unit of work there will be an end of unit test which will be used for continuous assessment.</p>
<p>T & D</p> 	<p>T&D is mainly a practical subject. There will be HW set to develop knowledge and understanding of material, tools and processes. Drawing and presentation skills will also be developed through sketching tasks, some of which will involve following a YouTube tutorial.</p> <p>Most HW will be set and submitted using the Google Classroom App.</p>
<p>English</p> 	<p>To help pupils get the most out of the Accelerated Reader programme they should read for 30 minutes each evening.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pupils will be set a spelling, skills or research task each week. Pupils should spend 20- 30 minutes completing this task. ○ Pupils will be set an extended writing task on a monthly basis. Pupils should spend 30- 45 minutes completing this task.

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