



Ormiston Academies Trust

Ormiston Ilkeston Enterprise Academy Homework policy

Policy version control

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1. Introduction

Homework at Ormiston Ilkeston Enterprise Academy (OIEA) is set by teachers and completed by students in order to complement and reinforce what is taught in lessons, so that learning from lessons is understood and consolidated and so that students know, understand and can do more.

Homework is any work or activity which students are asked to do outside lesson time either on their own or with support of parents or carers.

Homework has a variety of purposes including:

- Consolidating knowledge and securing long term learning
- Helping students to take responsibility for organising their own work
- Giving opportunities for students to work independently and to acquire good study habits
- Preparing for future class work
- Extending the time available to study each subject
- Supporting the home/school relationship

All homework set at OIEA must be:

- Meaningful and relevant
- An integral part of the curriculum and programme of study
- Accessible to all students in the group
- Reasonable in terms of the time taken to do it and the resources and support that would be needed to complete it

Students are expected to:

- Complete all homework to the best of their ability.
- To hand in homework on time.
- To complete homework independently, unless the nature of the homework set does not allow this

2. The amount of homework

The amount of homework set by subjects/classes varies by key stage and the amount of curriculum time dedicated to the subject.

Key Stage	Number of lessons per week	Frequency of homework	Length of homework task
3	1	Fortnightly	30 minutes
3	1.5 and 2	Weekly	20 to 30 minutes
3	3	Weekly	40-45 minutes
3	4	Weekly	50 minutes to 1 hour
4	3 (Options subjects)	Weekly	40-45 minutes
4	4 (Core subjects)	Weekly	1 hour

A student in key stage three will be expected to complete between 5-6 hours of homework per week. This equates to one hour per night after school and one hour at the weekend.

A student in key stage four will be expected to complete approximately a minimum of 6 hours of homework per week. This equates to one hour per night after school and one hour at the weekend.

3. Organisation of homework

- All homework is set using Class Charts. This is accessible to both students and parents.
- Instructions need to be clear, precise and accurate.
- All resources, including documents and links, needed to complete the homework are expected to be available on Class Charts, in case a student is not in class.
- Homework may be differentiated to ensure that it is accessible to all students. This is most likely in subjects which are in sets. It is not an expectation that staff set multiple homework tasks for one class; however, homework must be accessible, useful and challenging to all students.
- A range of types of homework will be set including practical tasks (such as completing questions in mathematics or producing a piece of artwork, revision tasks (for example, revising a key topic before an end of unit assessment), research tasks.
- Where a student has a particular SEND need (e.g. visual impairment) measures must be put in place to ensure that they can access and complete the homework.
- Where a student has access arrangements (e.g. requiring 25% extra time), a teacher should take this into account when setting work, so that the student is not expected to spend more time on homework than students without access arrangements.
- Where specific resources are needed on order to complete a homework task (e.g., a DT or Art project), teachers will ensure that all students have access to the resources needed to complete the task to the highest level. Students should not be expected to stay at school longer than their peers to access the resources.

4. Tracking and feedback of homework

Departments and class teachers are expected to track that students are completing homework on time and to the best of their ability.

Departments and class teachers must effectively and consistently assess and track homework in ways that:

- Ensure that departments and class teachers are aware of whether students are completing work to the best of their ability or not. This can be done via a range of strategies including, but not limited to: online quizzes; in class tests; retrieval activities linked to revision tasks; mini-whiteboard tasks; extended writing; projects completed over a series of homework slots.
- Makes use of automated marking, peer assessment and self-assessment to reduce the time spent on assessment of homework tasks by colleagues.

- Where appropriate, utilises the OIEA Diagnostic Feedback strategies (written and verbal) to give feedback to students on their homework (*Note – Assessment strategy has the expectation that written teacher feedback every 8-12 lessons*).

Subject and Faculty Leaders will track completion rates of homework in departments. Where homework is not being completed, support will be given to the class teacher, students and parents to ensure that improvements are made.

5. Non-completion of homework

When homework has not been completed on time or with a satisfactory level of effort, appropriate action will be taken by the class teacher and department in line with the academy Behaviour Policy.

The completion of homework is carefully monitored by teachers, subject leaders and Heads of Year and further support is provided for those students who are identified as regular non-completers.

At KS4 failure to meet deadlines set for coursework is a very serious matter and it can lead to the work not being marked or submitted to the exam board. Parents/Carers and students will be informed at the earliest opportunity, if there is a risk of this happening and appropriate support put in place.

6. Faculty Leaders and Subject Leaders role in homework

Faculty and Subject Leaders are responsible for ensuring that all teachers in their department are setting appropriate homework in line with departmental schemes of work. This should be checked on a regular basis as part of the department's quality assurance process.

7. Subject Teachers role in homework

Subject teachers are responsible for setting appropriate homework in line with departmental schemes of work. It is recommended that homework is issued as early in the lesson as possible and that the work set should be explained to students.

Teachers should avoid setting homework to be completed for the next day but will give students at least two days to complete homework tasks. More extended pieces of homework will have longer deadlines.

Homework will be differentiated where necessary to take into account the individual needs of each student.

Teachers are not expected to assess and/or provide written feedback on every piece of homework that is allocated. A wide range of techniques can be used to inform students of their progress in homework such as online tests marks, knowledge retrieval test marks, whole class feedback, peer marking, written comments etc. The intended method of assessment or evaluation should be shared with students.

8. Students' role in homework

Students should check Class Charts daily to ensure that they are aware of what homework they need to complete and the deadlines.

Students need to accept that deadlines must be kept. Being away on the day that homework is set is not an excuse for not doing it. If students are absent, they need to find out what work has been missed and to catch up on it.

Problems with homework should be resolved before the deadline. If necessary, students should:

- See the member of staff concerned for help
- If the member of staff is absent, they can see the subject leader for the subject

Students should take a pride in their homework and the work that they complete should be done to the best of their ability.

9. Parents/Carers role in homework

- Parents/Carers should support students with their homework but accept that their involvement will become less frequent as students become more responsible and independent.
- Parents/Carers should make it clear to students that they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help them to progress.
- Parents/Carers should try and provide a reasonable place where students can work or encourage them to make use of the school's facilities (the Learning Resource Centre runs a supervised study session most evenings to 4pm).
- Parents/Carers should encourage students to meet homework deadlines by monitoring their Class Charts account and signing it on a weekly basis.
- Parents/Carers should encourage students and praise them when homework is completed.
- Parents should encourage their son or daughter to see their teacher to seek advice about homework rather than contacting on behalf of the student.

10. Key responsibilities and points of contact

Any general queries about homework should be directed to Mr Forster (Vice Principal), who is the strategic lead for Teaching and Learning.

More specific questions about homework should be directed to the relevant Head of Faculty or Subject Leader.