



**FORGE
VALLEY
SCHOOL**
& SIXTH FORM

HOMEWORK POLICY

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Member of Staff Responsible:	Associate Assistant Headteacher – Siân Devine Assistant Headteacher – Helen Smith
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Ratified by:	Full Governing Body:  Mr S Andrews Co-Chair of Governors  Ms N Marsden Co-Chair of Governors
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We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of all school policies on equality and the possible implications for pupils with protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

This policy has been developed by building on our own best practice and that of other educational networks. It has been developed in consultation with governors, parents, staff and pupils and is accessible through the Forge Valley website.



1. Purpose of the policy

The purposes behind this homework policy are:

- to support effective dialogue between teachers and pupils;
- to help develop pupils' mastery of key concepts within their learning
- to reduce workload on both pupils and staff

Homework enables pupils to:

- Consolidate and extend work covered in class, to master concepts and make links with prior learning.
- Access resources not available in the classroom.
- Develop research skills.
- Have an opportunity for independent work.
- Show progress and understanding.
- Provide feedback in the evaluation of teaching.
- To enhance their study skills e.g. planning, time management and self-discipline.
- To take ownership and responsibility for learning.
- Engage parental co-operation and support.
- Create channels for home school dialogue.

2. Homework Support

The Learning Resource Centre (LRC) is open each day from 3pm until 4pm. Pupils can attend the LRC for help with their homework, or to use ICT resources in support of their work. Pupils unable to access online resources at home shall be provided with paper copies by their class teacher on request.

3. Mastery

Homework for all pupils in school shall focus on the mastery of key skills and strengthening the learning of key concepts, making clear links with prior learning. Mastery is an inclusive way of teaching that is grounded in the belief that all pupils can achieve. A concept is deemed mastered when learners can represent it in multiple ways, can communicate solutions using appropriate language and can independently apply the concept to new problems. Homework shall be an opportunity for pupils and their families to re-examine topics taught in lessons and use a series of resources to help the mastery of that concept. This should encourage every pupil to preserve and grasp knowledge they didn't previously understand.

4. Key Stage Three

Homework must be set using MCAS in order to alert parents and ensure a consistent record is kept. Pupils will be set mastery-based homework weekly in the following subjects:

English

Maths

Science

History

Geography

Religious Studies

Spanish

For all other subjects, homework is set as a larger project-based piece of work once per term. If pupils fail to complete 3 pieces of homework in a week, or 3 pieces in a subject, they are placed in a homework catch up session to complete this work.

5. Key Stage Four

Homework must be set using MCAS in order to alert parents and ensure a consistent record is kept. Pupils will be set homework and revision tasks where appropriate in each of their subjects. Pupils who miss a piece of homework is placed in homework catch up to complete this work. Failure to attend this catch up will result in a second chance at attending catch up. Failure to attend this will lead to an escalation through the school behaviour system.

6. GCSEPod

To support KS4 homework and revision, Forge Valley School have invested in the GCSEPod website and strongly encourage teachers to set assignments and revision tasks using the website. For Y11 weekly competitions will take place with rewards given for engagement, excellence and improvement. Prizes range from free hot drinks to a full prom ticket paid for by the school