



Homework Policy

Jesus Christ is our family role model

Opening our hearts and minds to dream the impossible and achieve beyond our wildest imagination

Everybody is valued and respected

Young and old will journey together to build God's Kingdom.

Striving for academic excellence and celebrating success in all we do

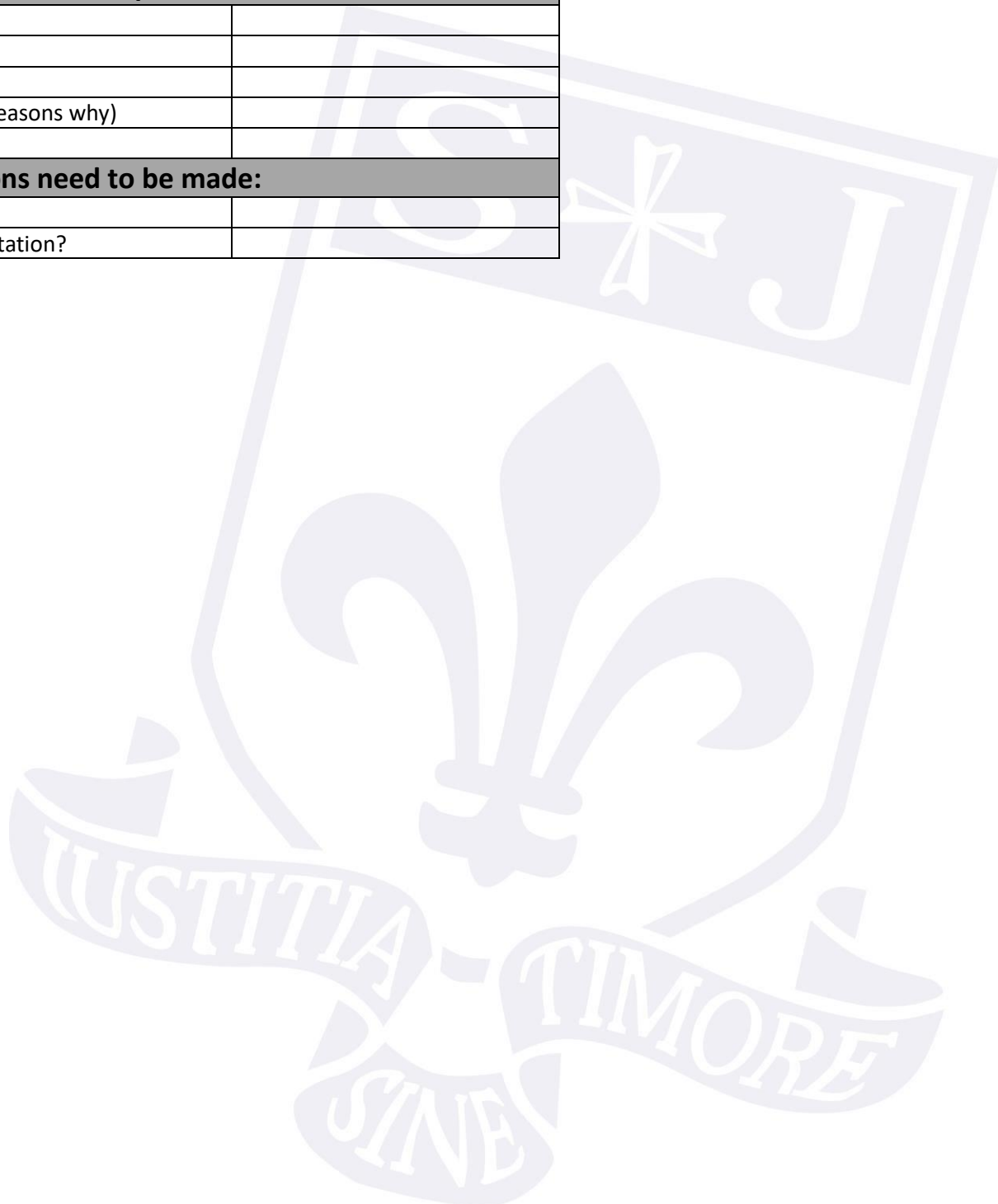
Approved by Governors: November 23

Date for Review: Autumn 2024

Version Control

Current Version	Previous Version	Summary of Changes Made

Policy Impact Statement	
Policy:	
This Policy has been implemented:	
Fully	
Partially	
Occasionally	
Not at all (give reasons why)	
What revisions need to be made:	
To the Policy?	
To its implementation?	



Rationale:

Following from our Mission Statement we at St Joseph's believe that homework is a means of developing the potential of our students by increasing their independence as well as their confidence as a learner. It helps to reinforce the partnership between home and school. It provides an opportunity for each student to consolidate their classroom based studies, to extend their understanding, and, in order to promote a zest for learning and satisfy their natural thirst for knowledge, to signpost them to bespoke resources to support this end.

This rationale is further supported by national research:

[Homework | EEF \(educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk\)](http://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)

Purposes of Homework

- To strengthen the continuity of learning between lessons.
- To provide opportunities for students to practise what they learn in lessons.
- To enrich students' learning outside the classroom environment.
- To enable students to take more responsibility for their own learning.
- To enhance students' development of study skills and independence.
- To enable students to develop a systematic approach to task and time management.
- To enhance the involvement of parents/carers in their child's learning.
- To enable students to prepare for Controlled Assessments in any vocational qualifications.
- To prepare students for the requirements of GCSE examinations and contribute to GCSE progress.

Principles of Homework

- Homework is a meaningful and appropriate activity for the student in question.
- The amount and nature of homework is balanced and reasonable according to each student's needs. The Department for Education guidelines state Year 9 - 45-90 minutes per night; Year 10& 11 1-3 hours per night – up to 6 hours at the weekend. For our students the number of subjects completed per night should be no more than 2-3 subjects. In order to support students to manage their time appropriately students should be given a minimum of 2 nights' notice of any homework to be completed.
- Homework should be proportionate to the teaching time and set regularly ie between one and four pieces a fortnight.
- The length of time to complete homework will vary according to the purpose of the piece of work.
- There will be a clear purpose to the task set which maybe: to allow for practice /mastery, to extend learning, to allow for independent study of a topic covered in class.
- Students' homework will be acknowledged. Where appropriate students will be given feedback on their homework this feedback will focus on; reinforcing good practice, clarifying any misconceptions, highlighting next progression steps. Feedback may take the form of individual feedback in books, whole class feedback, peer feedback.
- Where 'revision' is set as homework this will be scaffolded and clearly explained with specific measureable activities. Students will not be set additional homework beyond revision during exam periods.
- Where extended projects are set, the nature of the work expected for each homework should be made explicit. The students should themselves be involved in this by being encouraged to produce forward plans. Class teachers should periodically check and support this homework to support students to break it down into manageable steps.

- The best place to do homework is at home and parents are asked to co-operate in providing an environment which is conducive to study for their child. Should this not be possible then parents are requested to speak to the child's Head of Year.
- Students are also encouraged to make use of revision books, knowledge organisers, websites and private reading in addition to set work where possible or if they are unclear as to the work set.

Recording and reporting Homework

- E-praise acts as the means of recording homework by the students and should be used in a consistent way. Teachers should build time into lessons for students to understand these homeworks and ask questions about the homework before they leave.
- Homework will be logged on E-Praise and will serve as a source of information and resources for both parents and their children.
- Students should be encouraged to take an active involvement and responsibility, for their own homework. This includes recording the homework and the meeting of deadlines.
- Heads of Year and associated Pastoral Teams will monitor levels of homework, homework completion.
- Where there are any questions regarding homework students are requested to contact their teacher for the subject in the first instance.

Non – Completion of Homework

- If homework has not been completed, in the first instance the class teacher will check the reason for the delay.
- If the homework is not completed on time the student will be issued with a C3 detention and will be requested to stay to complete as much of the homework as possible over lunchtime.
- If the student fails to turn up to a homework detention students will be placed on the next step of the school sanctions ladder and an after school detention will be issued.
- The HOY will identify students who regularly fail to hand in homework and will work on solutions to this issue. This intervention may depend on the circumstances surrounding the non-completion of homework and will include some of the following; a telephone call home, homework report, in-school access to areas to help complete homework, further detentions for missing work, extra support from their form tutor / class teachers to help understand the homework and manage their time, support from a class buddy.

Quality Assurance of Homework

- Class teachers will regularly monitor students' homework and inform parents / HOD/ HOY where there are concerns.
- HOD will monitor the quality and quantity of homework set in the department to check that it is proportionate and purposeful.
- SLT line-managers for each department will monitor homework at least 3 times a year.
- Parents are asked to support their child to become increasingly independent with their homework completion.

Examples of Homework

- Exam skills – past exam questions on a recent topic.

- Practice of skills such as a music piece or a presentation.
- Complete exercises on a specific learning point (maths questions, cloze text)
- Reading comprehensions
- Flipped learning – pre-prepare for a topic by reading up on it beforehand.
- Revision that is structured and specific (mindmaps / gap fills)
- Online practice (Mathswatch / ActiveLearn)
- Research into a topic

Conclusion

Homework at St. Joseph's is recognised as an integral part of school life. It assists in the development of serious attitudes to study on the part of the students, acts as a valuable supplement to school-based experience and seeks the active support of parents.



Appendices

Appendix 1 - Frequency of homework

Occasionally each subject may add an additional shorter research or learning homework per fortnight where this is most appropriate and supports progress.

Subject	Years 7 & 8	Year 9	Years 10 & 11
Art & Textiles	1	2	2
Business & ICT	Ideas Award Approx. 1 hr per week but can be done over the half-term.	2	2
Design Technology	1	2	2
English	2	2	2
Geography	1	2	2
History	2	2	2
Maths	2	2	2
MFL	2	2	2
PE - Core	All students are encouraged to take part in weekly extracurricular competitive and / or fitness activities.		
Performing Arts (Drama and Music)	2 per half term	2	2
RE	2	2	2
Science	1	2	3
Non-GCSE subjects C-NAT / BTEC	N/a	Due to the practical nature of these subjects and the strict rules around Controlled Assessments please see the Subject Teacher if you would like more information around how homework is managed.	

Appendix 2 – Frequently asked questions

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1.) How do I know what homework my child is set?

All homework is set on www.epraise.co.uk

- 2.) My child is struggling with their homework.

If you can support them with the instructions that is helpful. If not then please guide them to contact their class teacher via e-praise. You can also contact their teacher if necessary but we do encourage the students to become independent and look for solutions themselves. If they need more time for any reason please send them in with a note signed by you.

- 3.) Why are homeworks set fortnightly?

It is important that homework is relevant and timely. A fixed timetable can lead to homework being set before students are ready for independent work. A slightly more flexible approach allows the teacher to ensure that homework is timely, purposeful and relevant.

- 4.) Who do I speak to if my child is being set too much or too little homework?

In the first instance it is always better to speak to your child's class teacher. Should you wish to talk to someone else you can speak to their Head of Year or the Head of department of the subject concerned. You can use E-praise or School Gateway to contact staff.

