

Great Academy Ashton

Home Learning Policy



Great
Academy
Ashton

Inspiring Greatness

Great Academy Ashton is a highly inclusive, multi-cultural, celebratory learning focused school where we seek to embed our GREAT values in all activities and actions within school: GENUINE, RESPECT, EXCELLENCE, ACHIEVE, TOGETHER.

Introduction

Home learning is an integral part of effective assessment and it is a very important learning experience for all pupils. Good practice is promoted through work which is set regularly across all departments and key stages according to the needs of the pupils.

Rationale for this policy:

“...the impact of homework, on average, is **five months' additional progress**. However, beneath this average there is a wide variation in potential impact, suggesting that **how homework is set is likely to be very important...** Homework has been extensively researched. There is a relatively consistent picture that **pupils in schools which give more homework perform better...** Some studies indicate that there may be an optimum amount of homework of between **one and two hours per school day (slightly longer for older pupils)**, with effects diminishing as the time that students spend on homework increases.”

The setting of home learning in secondary schools is shown to be the **fourth most impactful method of teaching and learning** when implemented to a high standard.

Feedback High impact for very low cost, based on moderate evidence.	£ £ £ £ £	🔒 🔒 🔒 🔒 🔒	+8
Metacognition and self-regulation High impact for very low cost, based on extensive evidence.	£ £ £ £ £	🔒 🔒 🔒 🔒 🔒	+7
Reading comprehension strategies High impact for very low cost, based on extensive evidence.	£ £ £ £ £	🔒 🔒 🔒 🔒 🔒	+6
Homework (Secondary) Moderate impact for very low cost, based on limited evidence.	£ £ £ £ £	🔒 🔒 🔒 🔒 🔒	+5

Aims

The regular setting and marking of home learning encourages:

- Consolidation and extension of learning
- Monitoring of progress
- Independent learning
- Self-discipline, personal organisation and responsibility
- Home/school partnership

The Nature of Home Learning

It should be noted that home learning can be set in many different forms with different expectations and outcomes. It is important to remember that when setting home learning there are a number of points to consider:

- The nature and type of home learning changes throughout a student's school career.
- Amount and frequency of home learning will differ according to the student's ability level.
- Home learning should not cause undue stress on the student, family or the teacher.
- It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.

Recommended Time Allocation

Home learning should never be too onerous, nor should it ever create stress within the pupil's family. If parents/ carers have any concerns, they should not hesitate to contact the school. Normally, more than one day will be allowed for the completion of a home learning task, except where daily practice is to be encouraged. As a general rule, the quantity will increase as student progress towards year 11.

Home Learning Tasks

Wherever possible home learning will be set online. This will be posted in Microsoft Teams so students can access this information at any time and will come from a variety of online websites and applications. All students have access to Office 365, which includes the full Microsoft package such as Word, PowerPoint and Outlook (the school email system). Teachers can be contacted via Teams where support is needed during **work hours**.

We have made huge investments selecting the most effective online platforms and applications, which have proven results in raising attainment. All students have free access to these sites and should know their login details. They can use their school login details in most cases. Subjects will also use more subject specific sites and apps and there are user guides and support on the school website (parents / home learning section) <https://gaa.greatacademies.co.uk/parents/home-learning/>

The main whole school websites are:

- GCSE Pod
- Seneca Learning
- Century Tech
- ClickView

Teachers are expected to set a range of home learning tasks to give students a varied and engaging independent learning experience with the following tasks examples of suitable home learning:

- GCSE Pod: Watch/listen to podcasts and complete accompanying activities (e.g. quizzes).
- Activities on Maths Watch / Seneca Learning
- Creation of revision materials (e.g. flash cards) and knowledge organisers.
- Use of revision guides; reading and activities.
- Prescribed reading with follow-up tasks (e.g. comprehension, preparation for class discussion/debate).
- Long-term retrieval tasks.
- Examination style questions (KS4 only).
- Extended writing opportunities in a variety of genres (e.g. letters, poetry, persuasive writing, emotive writing).
- Researching topics using pre-determined information sources (e.g. articles and web links).
- Practicing practical skills (e.g. cooking, musical performance, composition, skills linked to P.E. and drama)
- Completing listening exercises (e.g. Music, French and Spanish).

Role of the Class Teacher

- To set regular home learning in an easily followed routine.
- To ensure that home learning is set consistently and proportionately.
- To ensure any home learning is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- To reward and praise pupils who regularly complete home learning tasks.
- Give feedback to students on home learning.

Teachers are expected to keep a record of submission of home learning for the sake of communication with parents/carers and monitoring student engagement. This can be done using an electronic document or their teacher's planner.

Role of the Head of Subject / Faculty

- Ensure home learning tasks are being set regularly.
- Ensure home learning tasks are meaningful and not onerous.
- Ensure information from home learning is used effectively to support learning.

Role of Parents / Carers

- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the home learning.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their home learning
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their home learning.
- To become actively involved and support their child with home learning activities.
- To make it clear that they value home learning and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.

KS3 Home Learning Timetable:

Subject	Frequency	Y7	Y8	Y9
English	Weekly	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins
Maths	Weekly	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins
Science	Weekly	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins
P.E.	Fortnightly	Up to 15 mins	Up to 15 mins	Up to 15 mins
Spanish/French	Fortnightly	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins
History	Fortnightly	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins
Geography	Fortnightly	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins
Computer Science	Every 4 weeks	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins
RE	Every 4 weeks	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins
Music	Every 4 weeks	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins
Art	Every 4 weeks	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins
Drama	Every 4 weeks	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins	Up to 30 mins

KS4 Home Learning Timetable:

Subject	Frequency	Y10	Y11
English	Weekly	Up to 1 hour	Up to 1 hour
Maths	Weekly	Up to 1 hour	Up to 1 hour
Combined Science	Weekly	20 minutes per Science (1 hour)	20 minutes per Science (1 hour)
Triple Science	Weekly	30 minutes per Science (1.5 hours)	30 minutes per Science (1.5 hours)
Option subjects	Weekly	Up to 1 hour	Up to 1 hour

As well as home learning tasks set by staff, we expect students to be completing self-guided study. By Key Stage 4 students should be able to work independently and should be accessing the recommended school and department websites as well as other revision resources such as past papers, revision guides etc.

Non-completion of Home Learning

We believe that the most important factor is that home learning is completed by all students, as it is an extension of learning from the classroom. It also checks learning over time, so it is vital all work is completed. Students will be rewarded for completing home learning.

If a student misses a home learning activity it will be logged on Class Charts and parents will be informed. If a student misses 3 home learning activities, then they will be issued with a Head of Subject correction. If the student misses this correction, then it will be re-arranged with the Head of Faculty and if this is also not attended then parents will be contacted to discuss academic progress and the next steps.