



Five Acres High School Homework Policy

Approval and review:

This policy is the responsibility of: Headteacher

This policy was approved by the Local Governing Body on: 08/02/2018
(amended on 21 January 2020)

1.0 Purpose

There is clear evidence in educational research that extension work which encourages learning can significantly enhance the chances of success for every student. With this in mind we have undertaken what we hope will be a simple and clear process for the completion of Homework which can be regularly monitored and will enhance the learning experience of your child.

Why do we have this policy in place?

1.1.1 The homework being set at Five Acres High School is modelled around the theory of deliberate practice.

1.1.2 The homework being set is aimed to interleave the learning of all students by testing the student's prior knowledge and understanding.

1.1.3 Interleaving can be achieved in a variety of formats, including:

- The use of regular low stakes quizzes
- The use of quick fire repetition quizzes in modern languages (including Active Learn)
- The use of Hegarty Maths
- The use of Seneca or Tassomai Science
- The use of the Accelerated Reader programme
- The setting of examination style questions

1.1.4 The aims of the homework policy are:

- To help students commit information to their long term memory
- To familiarise students with regular testing in a low stress environment
- To help students recall previously learnt information
- To help students become more independent in their study habits
- To consolidate the work taught in class
- To encourage students to develop the resilience needed for the refined GCSEs
- To close any gaps in each individual students learning

1.1.5 Homework should not be considered as a negative aspect of a child's education, but as an opportunity for further learning and progress. This policy has been carefully thought out and planned to ensure that each student benefits in terms of their overall attainment and progress. At Five Acres High School, no student will ever be set a homework that does not meet the requirements of deliberate practice or retrieval practice.

2.0 Procedures

When will homework be set?

2.1.1 **KS3:** All homework in KS3 will be set on a Friday and due on the following Friday. The expectation is that the homework will be completed over 4 sessions (Monday to Thursday is the proposal, but students are able to use their weekends if they prefer).

2.1.2 **KS4:** In KS4 Seneca Science will be the same as Key Stage 3. The Hegarty Maths homework changes in Year 11 to include more tasks per week.

In Years 10 and 11 students will also be set "subject specific" homework. For the majority of subjects this will be based upon the idea of deliberate practice – completing questions, exam papers or low stakes quizzes on the learnt subject content in class. Subject specific homework should last approximately 30 minutes.

The expected turn-around is a minimum of 3 days and students should be set the homework on a regular set day per week to assist them with their time management and organisation.

In Year 11 it is expected that alongside the deliberate practice activities, students will be revising. Some teachers may set specific revision tasks or topics and as a result may ask to see evidence of each student's revision. It is encouraged that as part of their homework organisation, all Year 11 students create a revision timetable and factor in time to complete both the Hegarty Maths and Seneca Science alongside the revision or deliberate practice set by individual subject areas.

Homework Model

In Years 7 and 8 students are expected to complete the following:

- 4 Reads – recorded in their planners
- 4 Low Stakes Quizzes – recorded in their planners
- 4 Hegarty Maths tasks (Online)
- Modern Languages Quiz

In Year 9 students are expected to complete the above plus:

- Seneca Science (Online)

In Years 10 and 11 students are expected to complete the above plus:

- Subject specific homework
- Revision

2.2 Whole school homework

2.2.1 Accelerated Reader – Read at least 4 times in 7 days and record the book title and page numbers read in your student planner. Each child should be reading for a minimum of at least 20 minutes per entry. Although reading speeds and font size vary for each student and book, students should be targeting 10 pages per homework session -as a minimum. (2 minutes per page). A parent or carer must then sign each entry to confirm the homework has been completed. The school uses the Accelerated Reader programme which can be accessed through our website – this enables students to complete the reading tests and vocabulary tests on the book they have just read. Please encourage your child to read a book from the list www.arbookfind.co.uk as this process has been proven to help students retain larger amounts of information when studying for their GCSEs. It is not however, compulsory to read from this list or complete the tests, as part of the homework model.

Failure to do any of this will result in a one-hour detention after school from 3-4pm.

2.2.2 Seneca Science – Complete the tasks set by your Science teacher, these tasks will cover topics from biology, chemistry and physics. This is a new platform for the school and we are currently in an experimental phase with it. It is likely that we will be setting a required success or pass mark in the near future; this is likely to be in the region of 70-80% accuracy.

Failure to do any of the above will result in a one-hour detention to be served on a Tuesday after school from 3:00-4:00pm.

2.2.3 Hegarty Maths – Complete 4 individual tasks using the Hegarty Maths online platform: <https://www.hegartymaths.com> scoring at least 61% in each task. The tasks will be set on a Friday and due in the following Friday. If you have attempted the task and scored less than 61%, students need to do the following: watch the “help” video in full, and then re-attempt the task. If after the second attempt, a student still struggles to gain 61% they should speak to their Maths teacher. Maths intervention (help) is available every lunchtime in the ICT rooms from 1:40-2:00pm and Monday to Thursday after school 3:00- 4:00pm in homework club.

Failure to do any of this will result in a one-hour detention to be served on a Wednesday after school from 3:00-4:00pm.