



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

(Reviewed by Headteacher December 2021)

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.

If you are looking for specific guidance or justification for our homework model, please refer to the online videos produced by our core subject staff.

This document aims to lay out the basics of what is expected and why we have this policy in place.

1.1.1 The homework being set at Five Acres High School is modelled around the theory of knowledge retrieval and 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 Sparx Maths
- The use of Bedrock vocabulary
- The use of Seneca Science and English
- 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 Sparx 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 the Sparx Maths and Seneca Science and English 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
- 6 Sparx tasks (Online)
- 2 Bedrock lessons (Online)

In Year 9 students are expected to complete the above (minus Bedrock) plus:

- Seneca Science (Online)

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

- Subject specific homework
- Revision
- Seneca English

2.2 Whole school homework

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

2.2.1 Seneca Science – Complete the tasks set by your Science teacher, these tasks will cover topics from biology, chemistry and physics. There is a compulsory pass mark of 70% for Foundation and 80% for Higher tier pupils.

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.

2.2.2 Maths Sparx - Compulsory homework contains questions around the topic(s) set by the class teacher, plus a smaller number of revision questions and questions around topics the student has recently covered. The questions are tailored to each student's level of understanding and all questions must be answered correctly before the homework is considered complete and handed in.

This consists of 6 tasks each with around 7 or 8 questions. If students get a question wrong they continue to be given similar less-challenging questions with more support until it prompts them to get help from a teacher.

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

2.2.3 English Bedrock - Years 7 and 8 have Bedrock with a minimum expectation that students complete two 'lessons' per week, which should take approximately 30 minutes to complete. Bedrock gives valuable exposure to cross curricular texts; it allows students to engage with fiction and non-fiction texts.

English Seneca - Seneca is set, with tasks to take no more than 1 hour. Seneca is targeted specifically at our curriculum and covers set texts for literature as well as exam skills and terminology for English Language papers 1 and 2.

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