

The Elms Academy Homework Policy

Home learning plays a pivotal role in the progress our students make. The primary function of homework at The Elms Academy is to allow students to consolidate their learning in lessons through additional practice. Research has shown that when new learning is consolidated through practice, it becomes embedded within our long-term memory and therefore is retained more easily.

Homework also provides additional benefits to the learning habits of our students. It actively teaches and promotes independence and resilience. It encourages students to take ownership of their learning and supports their organisational development. All of these are skills which will stand students in good stead for not only their academic futures but also the world of work.

Homework is set at the Elms Academy accordingly:

Year group	Subjects	Frequency
7	All subjects except Drama, Food Tech & PE	In the first term, 45 minutes a week for English, Maths, and Science. Afterwards, in addition to the above, half an hour a week for all other subjects .
8	All subjects except Drama, Food Tech & PE	One hour a week for English, Maths, Science and RE. Half an hour a week for all other subjects.
9	All subjects except Drama & PE	One hour a week for all subjects.
10 11	All subjects	At least one and a half hours' worth of homework per subject once a week
12 13	All subjects	At least two hours' worth of homework is set every lesson, totalling 8 hours a week per subject. In addition, Sixth Form students will take on an Extended Project Qualification.

Best Practice

- At **Key Stage 3** homework, where possible, should be set and completed online using bespoke online platforms like Seneca, and Sparx.
- At **Key Stage 4 and 5**: homework should include:
 - o Practice of application of knowledge learnt in lessons to answer mock exam questions, past papers, or essays.
 - o Practice of application of knowledge learnt in lessons to answer a series of questions on online platforms like Seneca, Sparx, etc.
 - o Annotation or re-organisation of class notes to consolidate knowledge (e.g. from notes into timelines, visual maps, Cornell notes, etc.)
 - o Research and preparation tasks to ready students for future learning.

Marking and assessment

Research suggests that homework completion is more successful when students find the work purposeful. To this end, not only do we ensure homework is closely tied to the learning in class, but also that it is marked and that feedback is received on it.

At Key Stage 3, homework completed online should be auto-marked or self-marked. At Key Stage 4 and 5, Subject Leaders can decide how best to mark and give feedback on homework, but as a guide, this can be done in a number of ways:

1. Homework is collected weekly and marked individually with feedback either written or verbal.
2. Homework is collected weekly and assessed collectively, with feedback sheets produced and given out in lesson.

Homework Timetables

	Year 7	Year 7A Grammar Stream	Year 8	Year 8A Grammar Stream	Year 9
Monday	Science Y band Languages 7B: Geography 7C: Art 7E: Geography	History Science Music	RE Languages		9B: Hist 9C: Art 9E: Geography
Tuesday	Band Y RE (SAM, SCH, GSC) 7B: History, Music 7C: Music 7D: Music 7E: History	Geography Art	Maths 8B: Geography 8C: History 8D: Geography 8E: Geography	Maths Art	Science RE 9A: Music 9B: Art, Music 9E: Art
Wednesday	Maths 7E: Art	French	English 8B: History 8C: Geog, Music 8D: Music	English History	Languages 9A: Geography 9C: Geography 9D: Art
Thursday	Bedrock English Band X RE (RBR, GSC) 7C: Geography 7D: Geography 7D: Art 7E: Music	Bedrock RE English	Bedrock 8B: Art, Music 8C: Art 8D: Art, History 8E: History, Music	Bedrock RE Music	Maths 9A: Art, History 9B: Geography 9C: Music 9D: Geography, History 9E: History, Music
Friday	Maths X band Languages 7C: History 7D: History 7B: Art	Maths	Science 8E: Art	Languages Geography Science	English 9C: History 9D: Music

	Year 10	Year 11
Monday	Option A	Option B English Band X
Tuesday	Maths Option B	Religious Education Option A English Band Y
Wednesday	English	Option C
Thursday	Science RE	Science
Friday	Option C	Maths