



Midhurst Rother College

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Homework policy

Revised: Sarah Jessop

Date: November 2023

Approved by LGB: November 2023

Review cycle: Annual

Homework policy

Principles

Homework is defined as any work or activity which students are asked to do outside of lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers. Educational research indicates that appropriate homework can significantly raise the standard of student achievement.

Key Aims/Purpose

- To consolidate learning from the classroom
- To develop routines and habits of revision and practice
- Prepare students for work in the future
- To deepen understanding

Responsibilities

Students

Students are expected to:

- Take responsibility for their homework
- Access homework on Arbor daily
- Produce their best work on any given task
- Manage their time effectively
- Complete homework on time
- Be pro-active in dealing with any problems that might prevent them completing a particular task
- Inform parents/carers, subject teachers and their form tutor if they are experiencing difficulties with homework

Parents/Carers

Parents/carers have a vital role to play in supporting their child with homework and are advised to:

- Encourage their child to get into a healthy routine for completing homework
- Check homework on Arbor, which can be accessed via the College website
- Provide a quiet area in which to work, with a suitable table, free from distractions
- Routinely check that homework has been completed to the best of their child's ability and offer encouragement and praise
- Contact the relevant subject teacher and/or form tutor if there concerns over any aspect of homework, e.g., if too much or too little time is spent on homework.

Subject teachers

- Will set appropriate and challenging homework which is differentiated to the needs of the students to which it is set
- Will allow sufficient time in lessons to introduce the homework activity
- Set the homework as an assignment on Arbor, even if students need to complete the task using a different online platform e.g. Seneca, Sparx (any attachments will be saved in the .pdf format unless an alternative file format is required)
- Will give feedback to students in line with the College marking policy
- Will liaise with parents/carers and the student over any concerns that may arise
- Recognise all homework and praise excellent and outstanding homework by awarding achievement points (see Appendix 1)
- Follow up on non-completion of homework (see Appendix 2)

Faculty/Subject Leaders

- Will monitor that all teachers in their area are setting homework regularly and giving feedback in line with the Teaching, Learning and Assessment policy
- Will review the quality of homework that is being set to ensure it meets the aims and purpose as set out above
- Will support staff where issues around completion or quality of student homework appear (i.e., letters home, detentions, etc.)
- Will ensure that their subject's homework schedule, as published on the website, +provides suitably accessible, challenging and relevant homework
- Supporting subject teachers in following up non-completion of homework (see Appendix 2)

Form Tutors and/or Heads of Year

- Will review homework completion on Arbor, raising concerns where they are identified
- Will contact parents regarding any issues around homework

SLT

- Will review homework quality through faculty monitoring
- Will review homework setting and completion through Arbor reporting
- Will evaluate and update the policy as required annually

Types of Homework

- Whatever the activity, homework will have a clear purpose which is shared with the student so they can see how it fits with the learning within the subject it is set
- Homework tasks will challenge, consolidate and deepen understanding and might include such things as:

Prepare	Create	Consolidate
Homework activities where they are asked to 'prepare' for the next lesson/s through activities that could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading• 'Flipped' learning activities• Research	Learning activities which allow students to build on classwork in a <i>meaningful</i> way. Some examples could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designing• Extended writing• Illustrating• Problem solving• Building/creating	Learning activities which allow students to repeat, analyse and evaluate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Practice exam questions• Revision activities which are directed tasks, for example, using knowledge organisers

Further guidance:

Some homework set will require students to complete tasks by using revision apps/online platforms such as Sparx and Seneca.

Feedback

- Students will receive feedback on their homework and where practical, tasks should be completed/stuck into exercise books
- Students will be rewarded for their effort (see Appendix 1)

Homework support for students

There are a variety of ways in which Midhurst Rother College helps students with homework:

- Subject teachers and computer rooms are available every lunchtime. Students should just turn up. Other arrangements at break or after school should be arranged directly with the teachers in advance
- Supervised homework clubs offered as part of the enrichment programme
- AEN Department Homework club

Appendix 1: Recognising and encouraging homework

1. Acknowledge, thank and praise in class
2. Record "Good Homework" achievement points in Arbor (3). All achievement points available to be viewed in the parent portal on Arbor
3. Record "Excellent Homework" achievement points in Arbor (8)
4. Record "Outstanding Homework" in Arbor (15 points) and an email home (manually from subject teachers)
5. Subject on-going half term 100% completion- 20 Points and an email home
6. Subject on-going termly 100% completion- post card home
7. Half-termly Prize Draw entry & end of Year Prize Draw entry

Appendix 2: Missed Homework

1. First homework missed:

- Ask why homework has not been completed.
- Support the student if possible / practical, seek advice from SEN team if needed, offer extension, direct to ICT room / homework club
- Recommend that the student attends a break/lunchtime support session available every day T107 and W101
- Recorded in Arbor- Automatic email home

2. Second homework missed: (in the same subject)

Record in Arbor- referred to a lunchtime detention to complete homework & automatic email home

3. Third homework missed:

Record in Arbor- referred to a lunchtime detention & automatic email home

4. Fourth homework missed:

Record in Arbor- referred to an SLT detention between 1.40-2.40 Friday afternoon automatic email home

5. Failure to attend SLT detention

Record in Arbor- referred to an extended detention beginning in period 4, during lunch and finishing at 2.40 on Friday afternoon

Additional actions may be put in place at any point to support the student:

- Parental meeting
- Homework reports
- Placing in 'Homework Club' to complete homework
- ICT support