



Homework Policy

Fairley House School

Date ratified	September 2023
Date for renewal	September 2025
Person responsible for review	Director of Studies

Policy Changes

Date of Amendments	Update

English

- **Word Study**

Spelling homework will be set every night. The time pupils are expected to spend on this homework varies from 10 to 20 minutes. The homework is intended to help pupils practice spelling rules learned in class within isolated words, develop vocabulary and apply the focus words at sentence level.

- **Reading**

Pupils should read aloud to an adult daily for 10 to 15 minutes. Pupils may also be given sets of sight words to learn at home. These should also be practiced on a daily basis.

- **Writing**

Pupils will receive one piece of extended writing homework per week, which will be related to the genre of writing being covered in class.

Maths

Daily mental maths homework will be set on Monday (ten minutes per evening). A longer piece of topic-based maths homework will be set on Wednesday (fifteen-thirty minutes depending on the level).

Other Curriculum areas

Homework may occasionally be set from other areas of the curriculum, for example Geography or History.

Special Provision

Special Provision homework may be set on occasion, by arrangement between the special provision teacher and the pupil. Occupational therapists and speech and language therapists may arrange Home Programs with individual parents.

Holiday homework

During school holidays, pupils are asked to continue their reading on a regular basis. Group teachers will also set revision homework tasks.

Notes for Parents

Please ensure that your child's diary is signed by the adult responsible for that evening's homework and a comment is made as to how accessible the tasks were to your child.

If there is a problem with an individual pupil completing homework regularly on a specific evening due to other commitments e.g., after school clubs etc, please negotiate with the group teacher or class teacher, as applicable.

The idea of any homework set is to revise and reinforce the learning that has taken place in the class and should therefore be fully accessible by the pupils.

It is important that pupils work as independently as possible, however, help from parents is permissible. The amount of help should be recorded in the homework diary.

Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 - 6)

English

- **Word Study**

Spelling homework will be set and should be completed every night. The time pupils are expected to spend on this homework is approximately 10-20 minutes. The homework is intended to help pupils practice spelling rules learned in class within isolated words, develop vocabulary and apply the focus words at sentence level.

- **Reading**

Pupils should read daily for at least 15-20 minutes. Pupils will also be given an additional weekly reading comprehension task to complete. Pupils may also be given sets of sight words to learn at home. These should also be practiced on a daily basis.

- **Writing**

Pupils will receive 1 piece of extended writing homework per week, which will be related to the genre of writing being covered in class.

Maths

Daily Mental Maths homework will be set on Monday (10 minutes per evening). A longer piece of topic-based maths homework will be set on Wednesday (15-30 minutes depending on the level).

Science

Pupils will receive 1 piece of science homework per week related to the science topic being covered in class.

Other Curriculum areas

Homework may occasionally be set from other areas of the curriculum for example Geography or History

Special Provision

Special Provision homework may be set on occasion, by arrangement between the special provision teacher and the pupil. Occupational therapists and speech and language therapists may arrange Home Programs with individual parents.

Holiday homework

During school holidays, children are asked to continue their reading on a regular basis. Group teachers will also set revision homework tasks.

Touch Typing

On joining Fairley House, pupils will be given log-in details to access 'TTRS', an online Touch-Typing program. They are encouraged to practice at home at least three times per week for 10-15 minutes at a time.

Exam Preparation

In liaison with reading, writing or maths teachers, additional homework in the form of test booklets or exam papers may be sent home at such a time as when your child is sitting entrance exams for future schools.

Notes for Parents

Please ensure that your child's diary is signed by the adult responsible for that evening's homework and a comment is made as to how accessible the tasks were to your child.

If there is a problem with an individual pupil completing homework regularly on a specific evening due to other commitments e.g., after school clubs etc, please negotiate with the group teacher or class teacher, as applicable.

The idea of any homework set is to revise and reinforce the learning that has taken place in the class and should therefore be fully accessible by the pupils.

It is important that pupils work as independently as possible, however, help from parents is permissible. The amount of help should be recorded in the homework diary.

Key Stage 3 (Years 7 - 9)

English

- Word Study

Spelling list words should be practiced every night in preparation for the weekly spelling test. Additional written spelling tasks may be sent home.

- Reading

Pupils should read daily. The amount of time will vary according to what is appropriate for the child's level, but it will normally be between 15 minutes and 30 minutes. Pupils will also be given an additional weekly reading comprehension task to complete. Weekly Current affairs homework may also be set.

- Writing

Pupils will receive 1 piece of extended writing homework per week related to the genre of writing being covered in class.

Maths

A weekly maths homework pack or work on SPARKS will be set. This is designed to revise previous topics and reinforce learning that has taken place at school.

Science

Children will receive 1 piece of science homework per week related to the science topic being covered in class.

Other Curriculum areas

Homework may be set from other areas of the curriculum for example. Geography, History etc.

Special Provision

Special Provision homework will be set, on occasion, by arrangement between the special provision teacher and the pupil. Occupational therapists and speech and language therapists may arrange Home Programs with individual parents.

Holiday homework

During school holidays, pupils are asked to continue their reading on a regular basis. Group teachers will also set revision homework tasks.

Touch Typing

On joining Fairley House, year 7 and 8 pupils will receive a log in for 'TTRS' an online Touch Typing program to practice at home and year 9 pupils will be allocated this, if deemed necessary. Pupils are encouraged to practice a minimum of three times per week for 10-15 minutes at a time.

Exam Preparation

In liaison with reading, writing or maths teachers, additional homework in the form of test booklets or exam papers may be sent home at such a time as when your child is sitting entrance exams for future schools.

Notes to Parents

Homework will be set by staff for students using the Fairley House Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

Parents should be involved with supporting homework tasks and are kept informed through the Fairley House (VLE).

If there is a problem with an individual pupil completing homework regularly on a specific evening, due to other commitments, e.g. clubs, please negotiate with the group teacher or form tutor.

Please ensure that your children are given enough quiet time to complete the homework set. It is important that they are used to completing homework and to working independently, so that they are ready for the next phase of their education.

Help from parents is permissible, but the amount of help should be recorded in the planner.

Key Stage 4 (Years 10 - 11)

- Homework is set to encourage independence, confidence, motivation, and self-discipline with the aim of helping pupils to become life-long learners.
- Homework is set to enable students to consolidate, reinforce, and extend what pupils know and understand when in lessons.
- Homework will be set by staff for students using the Fairley House Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).
- Parents should be involved with supporting homework tasks and are kept informed through the Fairley House (VLE).
- Parents will need to support pupils when completing homework if a reader, scribe, or prompter is used for examinations.

Parents can help pupils by:

- Sitting down with pupils and checking the VLE with them and talking through what has been set
- Supporting pupils with extended coursework by helping them to plan and manage their time
- Providing a quiet and suitable work area at home (e.g. a desk/table with a chair) away from distractions and interruptions
- Helping to establish a routine with homework setting time aside in the evening for it to be completed
- Praising pupils work during completion and after

Homework activities might include the following:

- Short or long answer questions
- Learning keywords and vocabulary
- Developing an understanding for coursework
- Research
- Revision strategies i.e. flashcards

Pupils may expect to receive two to three pieces of homework per day. On the days that less is set reading, research, coursework improvement, and consolidation through revision is recommended.

Pupils can expect 2 pieces of homework from core subjects per week with one piece from option subjects. Each piece should take around 20-30 minutes to complete.

Pupils are given adequate deadlines to complete homework with extensions provided when valid reasons are presented by pupils.

Pupils will be rewarded for producing good quality homework and meeting deadlines. Constructive feedback may be given verbally or in written format. Credits will also be awarded to pupils in line with the school's-rewards and sanctions policy.

If a pupil forgets to or is unable to complete the homework, then they should speak with the subject teacher before the next lesson. The subject teacher may extend the deadline but if homework is not produced on the second time of asking then a homework detention will be set.

Notes to Parents

The spread of homework will change throughout the year at GCSE level with an increase expected around coursework deadlines, mock examinations, and proper examinations. It is important that pupils manage their time effectively with the support of parents and staff around these busy times of the year.

Parents should contact the form tutor if their son/daughter is becoming overwhelmed.

After school tutorials are provided Monday -Thursday 3.30-4.30pm to support pupils with homework

Tips for supporting with homework.

1. Set up the right routines for homework.

- Setting up some routines can help make homework a more positive experience.
- Sticking to a regular time for homework will help to reduce your child's protests or you're feeling you need to nag them.
- If your child is hungry or tired, let them have dinner or a snack first.
- Find a place for your child to do their homework that is away from distractions (such as the TV)
- Make sure they have the equipment they need before they get started.

2. Allow your child to get things wrong and try again.

- If your child asks you a question, encourage them to say what they think first, before you give your answer. Then they will own their work and be proud of their achievement.

3. Make tasks manageable.

- Use a visual timer to break down the homework into manageable chunks for your child.
- Allow regular movement breaks between tasks, (not electronics!)

4. Try to keep calm when emotions run high!

- Homework is given to help support your child with what they are learning in school, but it can be a source of stress and anxiety for some children.
- It can also be a source of stress for many parents as getting children to complete homework can lead to conflict and power struggles.
- Remember to talk to your child's class teacher if there are any problems or concerns.