



7 HILLS
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
ADVENTURE IN LEARNING

Homework Policy

2022

7Hills Homework Policy - Overview

Homework is a part of 7Hills, it is a time for students to have autonomy over their work, develop their understanding and mastery of a subject and practice self motivation and time organisation.

Homework should not be burdensome or unnecessarily stressful for students. We recognise that students have commitments and interests outside of school and the importance of family time.

‘Spending excessive amounts of time on homework means that students are not meeting their developmental needs or cultivating other critical life skills.’

(https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2014/03/13/homework-hurts-high-achieving-students-study-says/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.951a066b8459)

Harris Cooper ‘noted that homework is also thought to improve study habits, attitudes towards school, self-discipline, inquisitiveness and independent problem solving skills. On the other hand, some studies he examined showed that homework can cause physical and emotional fatigue, fuel negative attitudes about learning and limit leisure time for children.’ (Harris Cooper, Duke University Psychology Professor and conductor of the most comprehensive research on homework to date.)

Homework Schedule

International A Levels (Year 12)

IGCSE students are expected to complete homework each week for each subject they are studying. Homework should take approximately 2 hours for each subject. Homework should be set once a week on a regular day designated by the subject teacher. IAL students will also use periods during the day to study and teachers may set additional reading. Each student will also be working on an EPQ during 4 free periods a week.

IGCSE (Year 10 &11)

IGCSE students are expected to complete homework each week for each subject they are studying. Homework should take approximately 45 minutes for each subject. For our students taking IGCSEs this is 1 hour 30 mins per weekday night. Weekends are therefore used for any necessary catch up or revision.

Year 10 IGCSE homework schedule:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English Lang	English Lit	Chemistry	Maths	Physics
History /	French / Spanish	Art / ICT	Biology	Geography / P.E.

Business	/ Music			
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Year 11 IGCSE homework schedule:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Biology	English Lit	Physics	Maths	English Lang
History / Business	French / Spanish / Music	Art / ICT	Chemistry	Geography / P.E.

IMYC (Years 7, 8 & 9)

IMYC students will have homework in the following subjects:

Maths, Science, Language Arts, French, Spanish - 1 homework task a week

History, Geography, Art, Music, ICT - 1 homework task per every 2 weeks

Design Technology, Drama, PSHE and Library are taught solely within class time.

The students will be working on interdisciplinary projects linked to the Big Idea and the Exit Point during specified time taken off the timetable during each unit. Weekends can also be used for these projects.

Homework tasks for each subject weekly should take no more than

- 30 minutes per subject for year 7
- 40 minutes per subject for years 8 and 9.

Year 7 homework schedule:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Weekly	French	Maths	Spanish	Lang Arts	Science
Bi-weekly	Geography	ICT	Art	Music	History

Year 8 homework schedule:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Weekly	Spanish	Science	Lang Arts	French	Maths

Bi-weekly	Art	Geography	ICT	Music	History
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Year 9 homework schedule:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Weekly	French	Science	Spanish	Lang Arts	Maths
Bi-weekly	Art	ICT	History	Music	Geography

Homework must not be set outside this schedule

Deadlines

Teachers will set deadlines which give students sufficient time to complete homework tasks. For example learning 5 words of vocab given on Monday, then Wednesday is a reasonable deadline. For an essay students should have a week to complete it.

Research (Educational Leadership, Feb 2006, Vol. 63, No. 5 *Helping Struggling Students*. Pp. 8-13) has shown that the main reasons students don't do homework is

- o 'Don't know how to do the work'
- o 'Don't have time to do the work'
- o 'Can't/don't plan'
- o 'Expressing their general despair'

Therefore teachers must ensure that students write the homework in their planners and that it is posted on Google Classroom. Longer deadlines allow time for students to ask for help as well as complete the assignment.

Student Planners

Subject teachers must ensure that students write the homework in their planners and that it is posted as an assignment on Google Classroom. Homeroom teachers check student planners regularly during the week and sign the planner on Wednesday afternoon, after the parents have signed it at the weekend.

Homework Tasks

Homework needs to be meaningful and improve learning.

Teachers should ask themselves these 4 questions when setting homework

- o **Does it make sense?** (Are the directions clear?)
- o **Is it necessary?** (How does it relate to the lesson?)

- o **Is it useful, given the circumstances under which it is carried out at home?**
- o **Is the homework doable without any assistance?**

(Educational Leadership, Feb 2006, Vol. 63, No. 5 *Helping Struggling Students*. Pp. 8-13)

‘Students are most likely to complete homework when homework is actually used the next day in class’ (Educational Leadership, Feb 2006, Vol. 63, No. 5 *Helping Struggling Students*. Pp. 8-13) Can the students read an article, watch a video or answer questions that will prepare them for the next lesson? This saves time in lessons and gives students a reason to complete the work.

Homework Grading

Not all homework/essential tasks will be graded. Even if a grade is not given, students must receive feedback on their work. A lack of feedback is a lack of incentive to complete the work. Homework is most effective when students receive ‘high-quality feedback on their work’ (Education Endowment Foundation, UK). Grades (or ticks for completed work that is not graded) must be uploaded onto Google Classroom. Feedback can be given directly on the work in exercise books. Homework must be marked as complete or the grade also recorded on Google Classroom.

Consequences for not completing homework

Teachers must always follow up on missing homework.

1. Initially this is a discussion with the student as to why the homework was not completed and to ensure it is completed. The teacher may offer to meet with the student 1-1 during Homework Club or lunchtime if required, to provide extra support.
2. If homework is still not completed, the teacher will contact the student’s parents.
3. If the issue of not completing homework persists, the teacher may escalate the problem to the Head of School to discuss with the student and parents and agree a plan to support the student, which may require the students to stay in Homework Club.
4. If homework completion continues to be an issue for a student they may be withdrawn from after school sport sessions or clubs in order to attend Homework Club at the discretion of the Head of School.

Homework Club

Homework club is available every day from 3.15 - 4.15pm for all students who wish to attend. Homework club is valuable for students as they can access laptops and the internet, and it also gives the structure to enable them to plan and organise their time. Any student who is in school after 3.15pm and not in a club is required to go to Homework Club.