

# Uffculme School

## Homework Policy

### Rationale

Homework (extension and enrichment activities beyond the classroom) helps to develop independent learning, research skills and personal work discipline such as organising time and meeting deadlines. This should be balanced with other important features of a healthy life, like physical exercise, membership of clubs and other out of school activities.

### Principles

We aim to ensure that:

- appropriate tasks are set to extend and enrich the curriculum
- the purpose of these tasks is clear
- homework is never given “for the sake of it”
- the quantity and difficulty of homework is differentiated to meet all needs and ability levels
- deadlines are fair and realistic and allow pupils plenty of time to complete work
- support is available in school to complete home learning tasks
- A bank of tasks is available for students who wish to independently extend their learning or develop areas of interest
- Support and facilities will be available (usually during lunch or after school) to help pupils complete homework if required

### Expectations

#### Key stage 3

Pupils will be set homework regularly in a range of subjects:

- Core subjects (English, Maths and Science) will generally set one homework each week
- All other subjects will set homework when required. As a rule, Humanities subjects (History, Geography and RE) and Modern Foreign Languages will set one homework every 1-2 weeks.
- Most tasks set will typically take about 30 minutes
- The guidelines for subjects will be applied consistently across teaching groups
- Higher ability teaching groups may be set slightly more homework and with greater frequency than other groups
- There will be some extended tasks set which will require pupils to plan work over a period of time to meet a deadline. Some subjects will use this as their principal method for setting homework in order to equip pupils with the necessary subject skills for KS4

## **Key stage 4**

- Work will be set by teachers in accordance with departmental policies to meet the demands of examination syllabuses
- The purpose of homework will be to consolidate class based work, demonstrate learning, prepare examination style answers, conduct independent research type tasks, revision, practice key skills etc.
- Tasks should take between 30 and 45 minutes per subject
- Study and revision sessions should form a regular part of homework at Key Stage 4

## **Roles and responsibilities**

### **Leadership group**

- Take responsibility for monitoring the policy
- Report to governors on progress on implementing this policy
- Promote the implementation of this policy through the home school agreement

### **Heads of department**

- Take responsibility for monitoring and implementing this policy for the department
- Lead the planning of schemes of work that include extension and enrichment work
- Liaise with heads of year over the timetabling of extension and enrichment work
- Provide a “bank” of home learning tasks which are accessible on the portal

### **Heads of year**

- Take responsibility for monitoring and implementing this policy for the year group
- Liaise with heads of department over the timetabling of extension and enrichment work
- Communicate homework expectations to pupils and parents at the beginning of each school year (through letters home, website, tutorial sessions, etc)

### **Tutors**

- Communicate homework expectations to pupils
- Monitor the implementation of this policy for the tutor group (checking planners, mentoring pupils, etc)

### **Subject teachers**

- Plan and set appropriate tasks for extension and enrichment
- Set appropriate deadlines for the completion of extension and enrichment tasks
- Acknowledge completed work and provide feedback to pupils as appropriate
- Record and report on pupils’ extension and enrichment work
- Communicate concerns about pupil performance in this area with colleagues and where necessary with parents