

# RUGBY HIGH SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

## **Introduction**

At Rugby High School we believe that homework is a very important element in students' education. We value the support of parents in implementing our policy.

## **The purpose of homework**

Homework should:

- encourage students to develop the skills, confidence and motivation needed to study independently.
- help to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding developed during lessons
- extend school learning, for example through additional reading, personal research and preparation for forthcoming topics
- provide feedback to the student on her progress, and to the teacher on students' knowledge, skills and understanding of classwork
- be differentiated appropriately to meet the needs of all students

## **The role of parents and carers in supporting students**

Parents can play an invaluable part in encouraging and promoting effective organisational skills. We encourage parents to support their daughters in relation to homework.

Students need a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which they can do their homework. The school library (unsupervised) is open until 5pm Monday –Friday for any student who would like to do work there.

## **Homework programme Years 7-11**

**Homework should only be set when appropriate and when set should be no more than the times indicated below:**

### **Years 7 and 8**

Half an hour a week for English, Maths and Science

20 minutes for all other subjects

### **Year 9 (in preparation for the increased workload in Year 10)**

40 minutes per week for Maths, English and Science

30 minutes for all other subjects

### **Years 10 and 11**

1 hour per week for Maths and English

45 minutes for all other subjects.

Where possible students should be given a week to complete homework. Please note that homework does not always have to be marked. It can include revision, research, reading or any other meaningful activity at the discretion of the teacher.

**Sixth Form** Approximately 12 hours per week ( 4 hours per subject). We recognise the value to students and their families of having a part-time job. However, we strongly recommend that this should not exceed nine hours per week and working on week nights should be avoided. There is compelling evidence that working above this limit seriously compromises students' academic achievement.

Homework timetables are made by form tutors in years 7 to 9 to guide both students and subject teachers. Homework diaries are provided for all Main School students. Students who have a problem meeting homework deadlines should discuss difficulties with their teachers, form tutor or pastoral manager so they can work out strategies for managing their workload. Students who give in homework late or incomplete can expect to receive a pink slip from the subject teacher or a departmental detention if the work is then not handed in within 24 hours.

### **Marking of homework**

Homework is set on a regular basis (according to Homework Timetable for years 7 – 9), marked regularly and returned promptly to the student. At regular intervals targets are set for students with advice as to how to improve. Individual departments have their own systems for target-setting and giving feedback.

### **Monitoring of homework**

Each Head of Department monitors the consistency of setting and marking of homework and the quality of students' work. SLT, as part of their whole school monitoring system, scrutinise randomly selected homework books for each year group to monitor the effectiveness of homework throughout the school.