John Ferneley College Homework Guidance

Hard work, kindness, resilience

1 What is homework?

Homework is work that the student is expected to complete outside of lesson times. This may be completed at home or at school when formal lessons have finished.

2 Why do we set homework?

Homework is valuable in ensuring students' progress and raising achievement.

Research proves that homework is an essential part of a students' learning journey. The Education Endowment Fund states that "homework has a positive impact of five months more progress on secondary school pupils."

Homework is important as it promotes students' self-discipline and personal responsibility for learning and organisation. It reinforces work started in class, extending knowledge and understanding, giving students opportunities to practise and develop skills.

Additionally, it allows parents to become involved in their child's learning. At John Ferneley, we promote the completion of homework as an extension of learning. We want it to become a part of all students' routines, norms and habits. We ask that parents support us with this by:

- Talking to their child about what homework they have been set
- Asking them about the nature of the tasks they have been given
- Checking on Class Charts what has been set and whether it has been completed

3 What should homework look like at John Ferneley College?

"Homework should focus on either practising previously taught knowledge or preparation for the next lesson."

This may look different across the subjects that students' study. They may receive a varied diet of activities including, retrieval practice tasks, improving work, pre-reading on a specific topic area, learning subject specific terminology and vocabulary, revision tasks and practice exam questions or preparation for practice exam questions.

It is important to recognise that completing homework is important habit forming for good learning practice. As students progress through the school, from year 7 onwards, the more they engage with homework the better the impact will be for their learning and progress, particularly in years 10 and 11.

4 Teachers

Teachers should ensure that all homework is clearly explained and recorded on Class Charts. Also, that tasks are pitched appropriately to pupils' age and ability.

Tasks students will be asked to complete will focus on particular skills or content that have been formally taught in class.

Some homework maybe set on a subject specific platform such as 'Sparx' for Maths. Teachers will ensure students have the correct login details and will direct students to where support is available if they are unable to access these platforms from home.

Teachers are encouraged to ensure that there is opportunity for a learning dialogue at all stages of a homework that has been set, particularly if a student has struggled to complete. These prompts are designed to negate homework being seen as a 'punishment'. Teachers are encouraged to ask:

'Why have you struggled to complete your homework?'
'What didn't you understand?'
'Do you need any other support?'
'What stopped you being able to complete your homework?'
'Can you access the after-school clubs or sessions to help complete your homework?'

This is an indicative, not exhaustive, list.

5 Parents

At John Ferneley College, we promote the completion of homework as an extension of learning. We want it to become part of all students' routines, norms and habits. We ask that parents support us with this.

Please ask your child if they have homework, check it on Class Charts and support them.

6 Students

Students should ensure that they check Class Charts daily to see what homework has been set. They should complete work to the best of their ability. If there is a problem accessing or completing the work, they should inform their teacher at the first available opportunity. This should not be in the lesson when the homework is due to be checked/collected.

7 What happens if homework is not completed?

At John Ferneley College we always review the best way to ensure that homework is completed, because we value homework as a part of the learning experience and journey. All homework is set for a purpose and we expect all students to engage with and complete it.

Homework Guidance

Guidance on how much homework my child may be set.

We aim to carefully choose the homework we set, always setting work that we know will actively help students' progress. There may not be work set for all subjects every week, as homework is never set simply out of routine, it is set only where there is a specific task that we know will actively promote learning and can be effectively carried out at home.

The frequency of homework for each subject will depend on the number of lessons they have for that subject. ***On average*** a Key Stage 3 student will be expected to spend approximately 20-30 minutes on each task set. This will increase to approximately 45 mins at Key Stage 4. Please remember that the table

below is ***guidance*** and ***not*** a specific ***rule.*** As you will see from the detail above, staff and subjects will set homework as and when to be meaningful and help move learning forward.

Yr7 Yr8 and Yr9:

Subject and number of lessons per fortnight	English 8	Maths 8	Science 8	Hums Geo 4 Hist 4 RE 1	MFL 4	Music 1	DT/Food/Art 3	Business 1	Computing 2	PD 1
Frequency and time allocation of homework 20-30 mins	1 per week	1 per week	1 per fortnight	1 per every 6 lessons	1 per week	1 per every 4 lessons	1 per rotation	1 per every 6 lessons	1 per every 6 lessons	1 per every 6 lessons

Yr10 and Yr11:

Subject and number of lessons per fortnight	English 10 (Yr10 9 (Yr11) Eng Lit Eng Lang	Maths 9 (Yr10) 10 (Yr11)	Science 10	Option 1 6	Option 2 6	Option 3 6
Frequency and time allocation of homework 30-45 mins	1 per week Either for literature or language	1 per week	1 per week Rotating bio, chem and physics	1 per fortnight	1 per fortnight	1 per fortnight