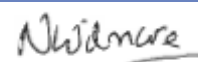


Homework Policy

INTERNAL POLICY

Date approved: November 2025
Signed by Headteacher: Mrs Natasha Wilmore



Reviewed: November 2025
Next Review: November 2026



St John Fisher
Catholic High School

Policy and Procedures

Homework Policy

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" John 10: 10

Principles

Well-designed homework will play a valuable part in a student's education. It offers opportunities for work which is independent of the teacher. Homework tasks will exploit materials, new technologies and sources of information which are not always accessible in the classroom. Homework will take many forms and is an essential complement to the work in lessons. It is relevant to all KS3 (excluding PE), KS4 and Post 16 courses and plays a vital part in enhancing students' learning, reinforcing what it is learnt in the classroom, encouraging students to take increased responsibility for achieving their goals and increasing their chances of success.

Purpose

Homework is set to provide students with opportunities to:

- Extend, develop and practise what was learned in class.
- Prepare for work in class.
- Acquire the ability, confidence and organisational skills to work independently.
- Work at their own pace and ability level, particularly in tackling longer term projects.
- Make use of resources and new technologies outside of the School.
- Strengthen School-Home links in the learning process.
- Revise and reinforce skills and knowledge learnt in the class work.
- Develop their literacy and spelling.

Homework also helps the teacher to:

- Check that students understand class work.
- Assess students' potential necessary for reviews and examination entry.

Homework will take **many different forms** including: planning, preparing, revising, learning, reading, speaking, designing, drawing, collecting, re-drafting, improving, researching information and written tasks to consolidate or extend learning.

Some homework tasks will be specific short term tasks related to the topic at that time and others will contribute to longer term tasks such as projects, portfolios of work and coursework.

Facilities and Resources

The School will provide a learning resources area including library facilities during the school day and after school so that students can access resources and suitable conditions for doing homework.

When students join the School, parents are given advice and asked to undertake to provide suitable conditions at home for doing homework.

EduLink is the means by which homework is recorded by the teachers and can be accessed by the teachers, students and parents.

Practice

It is expected that all teachers set homework for their classes (except KS3 PE) and that it is of an appropriate level and length for the students concerned. Guidelines will be given by the curriculum area.

As a general rule:

- KS3 classes should be given between 30 minutes and 45 minutes of homework per subject, in accordance with the homework timetable.
- KS4 classes should be given between 45 minutes and 60 minutes of homework per subject, in accordance with the homework timetable.
- KS5 should have a minimum of 3 hours of homework per subject, in accordance with the homework timetable.

Wherever possible, students should be given a regular day on which homework is issued so that they can plan their time accordingly. Students should be given several days to complete the homework.

Effort grades are to be awarded to homework pieces using the 1-4 scaling which is used for AP data collection:

- 1 Always completed to the expected standard, showing a great deal of effort
- 2 Usually completed to the expected standard with good effort
- 3 Often not completed on time or often completed to a poor standard
- 4 Rarely completed homework

If a class is split between two or more teachers, they should arrange between themselves who is responsible for the setting and marking of homework. The Head of Faculty should be aware of the arrangement.

Merits are awarded, where appropriate, linked to the 5 R's: Reflection, Reasoning, Resilience, Responsibility and Resourcefulness.

Responsibilities

The student is responsible for:

- Accessing details of the homework via Edulink.
- Completing the work set to the best of their ability.
- Handing the completed work in on time.

The parent is responsible for:

- Providing a suitable place for their child(ren) to do their homework.
- Checking Edulink to see what homework is set.
- Encouraging the student to complete the homework on time.
- Contacting the School via the tutor or subject teacher if there are any concerns.

The teacher is responsible for:

- Setting regular and **appropriate homework for the individual student** according to the School and curriculum area policies.
- Ensuring that homework is properly shared with student in class and recorded on Edulink.
- Setting an appropriate date for completion.
- Ensuring that homework receives appropriate, timely feedback.
- Awarding an effort grade on the homework piece.
- Promoting the homework club and inclusion centre to help support students.
- Taking appropriate action to sanction students who fail to complete homework or it is completed below expectation including setting a detention and, possibly, contacting parents if persistent.

- Ensuring ample time is given to the setting of information, modelling outcomes and that students understand the expectations and work set.
- Awarding merits linked to the 5 R's: Reflection, Reasoning, Resilience, Responsibility and Resourcefulness.

The Head of Faculty is responsible for:

- Ensuring that colleagues are aware of both the School and curriculum area policies.
- Monitoring that all staff set varied homework and taking appropriate action if this is found not to be the case.
- Monitoring that the homework set is **appropriate for specific classes and individuals** within the classes.
- Ensuring that homework receives appropriate feedback.
- Checking homework is set and completed by students when scrutinising student work.
- Asking students about their homework when undertaking student interviews.
- Responding to parents who raise concerns about homework issues.
- Leading an Academic Detention for students who do not complete/submit their homework.

The tutor is responsible for:

- Contacting subject teachers if a student or parent has issues that cause problems with regards to homework.

The Head of House is responsible for:

- Following up serious homework issues passed to them by the tutor including contacting parents.

The Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for homework along with the SLT are responsible for:

- Overseeing the monitoring of homework and its marking by the Heads of Faculty who will provide quality assurance evidence. The setting and marking of homework across the School will be monitored regularly by lesson observations, drop-ins, subject reviews and work scrutinies in line with the School's monitoring and evaluation schedule.
- Discussing homework with students when focus groups are interviewed.
- Providing facilities and resources within the School to help students complete their homework.

Reviewed by the Curriculum Committee: May 2016

Next Review Date: November 2026

Staff Member Responsible: Assistant Headteacher