

# Ormiston Victory Academy

## Homework policy – Key Stage 4

### Policy version control

Policy type	OAT Strongly Recommended
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Description of changes	

## **Frequency, format and duration**

On a half termly, basis all subjects/teachers must:

- Upload the knowledge organiser for the half term on to Class Charts.
- Give students direction for which topics of the knowledge organiser you would like students to focus on revising from.
- Provide the date for the knowledge organiser assessment and other ends of topic tests that students need to prepare for.
- Encourage students to use the revision techniques that they will be covering as part of the form time programme when revising for upcoming assessments.
- Provide additional homework for KS4 students relevant to your subject. This can be used to embed knowledge and develop skills. Homework tasks could include exam questions, coursework preparation or tasks, research, reading and extension activities.

**KS4 Core Subjects:** A minimum of 2 hours a fortnight – this can be linked to revision from the knowledge organiser and/or additional homework tasks – such as research tasks, exam questions, coursework, online revision etc.

**KS4 Option Subjects** (where this is relevant in the course): A minimum of 1 hour a fortnight – this can be linked to revision from the knowledge organiser or additional homework tasks – such as research tasks, exam questions, coursework etc.

Homework must be relevant to the scheme of learning, exam specifications and classroom learning. Homework should be engaging and challenging with clear links to the knowledge or skills required with completing coursework or undertaking exams.

## **Setting Homework**

Teachers must upload all set homework tasks (for both knowledge organisers and additional homework tasks) and relevant instructions, information and resources onto Class Charts.

## **Monitoring of Homework**

Curriculum Leaders must monitor that appropriate and regular homework is being set for their subject in accordance with the KS4 homework policy using the Class Charts calendar. The overview homework calendar can be accessed by parents via the academy website so it is vital that homework is being set with clear instructions and deadlines. OWI to monitor the amount and quality of homework being set by each subject at the end of each half term.

## **Feedback**

Additional homework tasks must form an integral part of the learning and specifically the lessons. Homework should be checked as part of a lesson, or the product of the homework should be used in a lesson, to ensure that students can see the link between the task and their learning. For the knowledge organiser assessments, which will be undertaken on a half termly basis, students need to know how they performed in the assessment and the gaps that they have in their knowledge. The planned progress support sessions (refer to OBA guidance) should be used to target students for additional teaching time (by a specialist subject teacher) in order to close the gaps in knowledge which have been identified by the knowledge organiser assessment or end of topic assessments.

## **Marking**

Additional homework tasks and knowledge organiser assessments must be marked either by peers, by the teacher, or through online platforms. The teacher must verify the marking of the homework. It is important that students get rapid feedback on their work to avoid learnt misconceptions. Homework should be regularly discussed and reviewed so that students can see the value of their work which they are completing outside of the school day. Homework submissions should be tracked using class charts.

## **Rewards**

Students' homework will be recognised with rewards as much as possible. Students who have completed homework which shows a good level of effort must be awarded a minimum of 1 homework Visas via Class Charts (positive – in class behaviour – homework). Postcards, phone calls home, or a personalised subject rewards system (refer to personalised department policy spreadsheet) can be used in addition to this. Good examples of homework (as with classwork) could be shared on your departmental or academy Twitter and Facebook pages as well as for modelling of exemplar work within lessons.

Positive recognition of homework is an important part of the home learning process and encourages students to take ownership of their learning.

## **Support systems for students that do not complete their homework**

If students do not complete their homework, the following should take place:

If a student does not perform to their academic ability in an end of term knowledge organiser assessment or an end of topic subject assessment – then they should be referred to the subject progress support (refer to OBA guidance on this) for specialist subject teacher support.

Every time that a student does not complete their additional homework, this MUST be logged on Class Charts in order to inform parents/carers (negative – progress – homework). This will then be monitored by Year Teams.

Some subjects have chosen to run break time, lunch time or after school homework support/catch up sessions for students, which is fantastic if this is manageable (refer to personalised department policy spreadsheet). Parents/carers need to be informed if their child is expected to attend afterschool sessions (Class Charts announcement is an effective way to communicate with parents). If a student fails to attend the homework support/catch up session you can log this on Class Charts (negative – progress – missed catch up) so that parents/carers are informed and so that this can be logged.

There will be no escalation of detentions for students that do not complete their homework. Instead, we need students and parents to understand the importance of completing the homework (through logging this on Class Charts and regular communication with parents). Running afterschool departmental homework sessions will help to engage and support students in completing their homework and is, therefore, encouraged.

An intel event has been set up on Class Charts which will inform the VIP team when a student has not completed a set number of homeworks across the subjects in a half term. This information will be shared with teachers at the end of every half term. Students and parents/carers will receive a letter after their child has missed 3, 5 & 10 pieces of homework within that half term. The letter explains the importance of completing their homework and offers Year Team support to try and eliminate some of the barriers to the child not completing their homework. Where there are incidents where a student is consistently missing homework from just one or two subjects – this may be referred back to the Curriculum Leader of that specific subject to contact home in order to discuss this with parents/carers.

The focus needs to be on reward, communication and support rather than consequence and escalation of consequences.

### Staff/students homework expectations

Staff	Students
To set homework (knowledge organiser & additional homework tasks) on class charts with clear instructions & deadlines.	Take responsibility to complete the homework by the set deadline.
To make the homework worthwhile. Homework needs to have a purpose & is valued.	Take pride in the quality of the homework which they produce.
To reward students that complete their homework.	Meeting deadlines and maintaining a school/home balance.
To log if a student does not complete their homework on class charts.	To speak to their teachers if they need support with completing their homework.
To track homework submissions on class charts.	To attend homework support clubs if they find it easier to complete homework in school.
Optional: to offer homework support clubs within the department.	To tick off their homework when it is completed on class charts.