

## Faculty Homework Policy

### Faculty name: English

#### **Rationale for homework at KS3:**

At KS3, the rationale for homework in English is twofold, linking to promoting a reading culture that values reading and also to the specifics of the English curriculum. We use Reading Plus, an adaptive literacy program, to encourage students to read a range of fiction and nonfiction texts and to monitor close reading skills and comprehension. This program is monitored by classroom teachers and used formatively to identify areas that a student may need to target and inform specific reading strategies used in lesson and the structured reading intervention that takes place during the fortnightly Library lessons in year 7.

Specific to our curriculum and key curriculum knowledge, each unit in English is accompanied by a 'Key knowledge' document that identifies key knowledge and vocabulary. After an initial period of establishing a Reading Plus routine, English staff use Satchel:One to set homework that is intended to consolidate learning and provide opportunities to revisit and enhance learning within the English classroom.

#### **The types of homework tasks that will be set and frequency:**

Reading Plus is set every week for year 7, year 8 and some of year 9. Students are asked to complete a 'Combo' (2 comprehension passes at 80%+ on a bespoke level suited to ability). Each SR task takes 12 – 18 minutes so **most students complete this in approx. 30 minutes**. Students who do not complete this program are set a reading challenge as an alternative form of reading.

There are 5 main types of homework tasks in English:

- Spell it
- Apply it
- Read it
- Retrieve it
- Practise it

The tasks focus on key skills within English such as:

- Vocabulary work
- Spelling, punctuation and grammar
- Sentence building & composition
- Reading retrieval
- Key knowledge recap
- Wider reading/research

Tasks take a variety of formats:

- Satchel One quizzes (MCQs and spellings)

- Self-quizzing
- Worksheets
- Reading retrieval grids
- Online reading (text and/or video)

English staff expect students to take between 10 – 30 minutes on these tasks; however, the time varies depending on the task. Staff may use a combination of tasks to ensure that students are sufficiently challenged and supported.

In addition to formally set work, KS3 students also have the option to enrich their experience of the curriculum with wider reading recommendations of fiction and non-fiction texts that supplement the focus of each unit of work. Current work is underway to ensure that access to these texts/extracts is available in the Library.

#### **Rationale for homework at KS4:**

At KS4, the rationale for homework is to ensure that key knowledge of the curriculum is embedded and to also ensure that students are enabled and supported in becoming owners of their own learning.

#### **The types of homework tasks that will be set and frequency:**

Homework is set every week for year 10 and year 11. A combination of tasks may be set but will **not exceed an hour**. In addition to homework set on Satchel:One, students are also actively encouraged to complete wider reading and, especially in year 11, revision prior to timed assessments. This revision is supported by the resources available on the English Virtual Classroom.

There are 5 main types of homework tasks in English:

- Apply it
- Read it
- Retrieve it
- Practise it
- Pod it

The tasks focus on developing students' ability to build extended responses in both English Literature and English Language and focus on key skills such as:

- Composition
- Reading retrieval
- Embedding Key knowledge
- Wider reading/research
- Exam practice

Tasks take a variety of formats:

- Satchel One quizzes (MCQs)

- GCSEPod
- Worksheets
- Writing challenges
- Reading retrieval grids
- Online revision (Virtual Classroom; Mr Bruff; BBC Bitesize)
- Past papers
- Exemplar responses from Exampro
- Video feedback of specific topics/questions produced by the faculty