

## The Crestwood School Homework Policy

### **Mission statement**

The provision of and completion of homework will engender a thirst for learning amongst the students of the Crestwood School and encourage and enable them to become successful and independent learners.

All students will understand the contribution that homework makes to their learning.

Homework will always be either creative, imaginative or useful.

### **Why is homework important?**

It allows the consolidation of learning that has taken place in the classroom and means that the student can learn even more by themselves. It gives the students confidence that they can learn by themselves and it helps them gain the skills to do so. It can give a student a wider perspective of their place in the world and engender a sense of spirituality, awe and wonder.

### **Crestwood staff will:**

Set quality homework that will aid the learning of a student. It should be an exception that it will be to finish off a task.

Make sure homework is precisely set and written on the board. Make sure the students record exactly what was on the board in their Homework Planner. Give a completion date for the task.

Set tasks that allow the students to learn in a variety of ways that will be interesting to them.

Differentiate in the setting of homework so that lower ability students can gain the benefits of completing rewarding homework and our most gifted and talented students can extend their skills.

Be consistent in the setting of homework. In KS3 it will be set once a week in the core subjects of English, Maths, Science and MFL and once a fortnight in the foundation subjects. In KS4 homework will be set once a week in all subjects.

Will check that the homework is completed well, reward that completion with a House point and employ the sanctions within the homework policy if it is not completed.

Will assess that homework through a variety of means including self and peer assessment.

Will make the students record if they have not done their homework in a register and use this record to apply sanctions consistently.

Will work with other departments and the pastoral team to help students that have not completed their homework to do so.

Reward excellent homework with 2 House points.

Reward outstanding homework with a Commendation.

Publicise and run a Homework Club to assist students who may find it difficult to complete tasks.

Refer persistent offenders to attend the Homework Club which students will attend on a compulsory basis once a week.

Display the homework rewards and sanctions in their classroom.

**Parents must:**

Sign the Homework Planner once a week and check that their son/daughter is completing the tasks.

Provide necessary resources such as pen, pencil, ruler and rubber to complete the tasks.

**Parents will be encouraged to:**

Take an active interest in their son/daughter's homework and discuss it with them.

**Students must:**

Complete all tasks set to the best of their ability.

Complete all tasks by the deadline unless they have a serious valid reason for not doing so. The school reserves the right to decide what a valid reason is. Problems with ICT, printing and such like are not a valid reason because the school can provide all that is needed for this through faculties/departments and the Homework Club.

Agree to attend a compulsory Homework Club if they persistently do not do their homework.

## **Rewards and sanctions**

### **Rewards**

A well completed homework will be rewarded with a house point.

An excellent piece of homework will be rewarded with 2 house points.

An outstanding piece of homework will be rewarded with a Commendation.

The student's ability will be taken into account when deciding whether to give 2 house points or a Commendation.

Beyond this faculties/departments should employ their own systems such as post cards home, certificates or prizes.

### **Sanctions**

#### **Mission statement:**

The motivation behind these sanctions is to be totally fair and to communicate the message to students that we do not want to punish them and we only want them to complete the work. This is how much we value homework and its importance to their development as learners.

#### **If a student does not complete their homework:**

If it is their first offence each term they will be warned and told that the task should be handed in the following lesson.

If it is not handed in during the following lesson the student will be given a 30 minute detention with the subject teacher. If the work is completed to the required standard and given to the teacher before the detention or brought to the detention then the detention will be withdrawn but a house point will not be issued after the original deadline. If it is not completed then the student will complete it in the detention. If the work is completed to the required standard before the end of the detention the student will be released.

If the student does not attend the detention they will be placed in a 45 minute Head of Faculty/Department detention. Again, if the work is completed to the required standard before the detention or brought to the detention then this detention would be withdrawn. If it is not completed the student will complete it in the detention. If the work is completed to the required standard before the end of the detention the student will be released.

Please note that the member of staff who originally put the student in would be expected to attend the beginning of the detention to ensure the student has all the resources they need to complete the task.

Non-attendance at the Head of Faculty/Department detention of 45 minutes will result in a 60 minute Leadership detention regardless of whether the homework has been completed or not. If it has not been completed then the student will complete it in the detention.

After the first offence then the student will immediately be placed in a 30 minute detention but the detention will still be withdrawn if the work is completed. If they do not attend then the same process as before will take place.

### **How do we deal with students who regularly do not complete their homework?**

If a student regularly does not complete their homework then the following actions should be taken:

1. Continue to employ the sanctions regime.
2. They should be placed on a Head of Department/Faculty report for Homework. The Head of Department/ Faculty will contact the Head of Year to see if the pattern is across a number of subjects.
3. If it is a cross subject issue then the student will be put on a Tutor report (green) with homework as their target. If the student does not respond they will go onto a yellow report to their Head of Year and a red report to a member of ELT/SLT.
4. If a student is on red report for homework they will be referred to the Compulsory Homework Club on a Tuesday afternoon until 4-30 with Sarah Barnbrook and Lisa Goodman for a 4 week period. Staff must be willing to support with resources so homework can be completed. Miss Barnbrook and Mrs Goodman will assist the students as well. There will be a referral form which a Head of Department or Head of Year can fill in but it must be signed off by a member of ELT/SLT.
5. If the student is still not regularly completing their homework then there will be a parental meeting arranged by the Head of Year with an ELT/SLT member present. The student will be placed in isolation for a day to complete their outstanding homework and will be referred to the homework club for another period of 4 weeks.

### **Conclusion**

Homework is a key driver of outstanding practice. If it is consistently set, well planned and rewarding it will aid students of The Crestwood School to become "thirsty to learn" and be outstanding and independent learners in their own right.