



NOTTINGHAM FREE SCHOOL'S HOMEWORK POLICY

Our Intent for Homework

Our intent is that every learner at Nottingham Free School is provided with clear, purposeful and concise opportunities outside of the classroom to engage in integral practice, knowledge learning, wider reading and consolidation of learning across the curriculum on a regular basis. The homework is carefully selected by teachers and is clearly linked to, as well as reflective of, the learning taking place within the classroom. Students are given timely feedback, either verbal or written, about the home learning they have engaged with so that they know what they have done well and how to move forwards in their learning journey.

Expectations of Students

All students at Nottingham Free School will make their best efforts to complete their homework to a high standard and on time. In order to do this, all students will:

- Check the Satchel One app or website regularly and know what homework they have to complete each day/week.
- Organise their time well so that they can complete the work on time.
- Spend a bit of time most evenings doing some homework.
- Ask their teacher or another adult in school for help before the work is due if they are not sure what to do, have lost the worksheet(s), or are struggling to complete the work.
- If absent when the homework was set, will make effort to find their teacher and ask for help or the worksheet(s) needed as soon as possible on their return to school.
- Speak to their parent/carer, class teacher, tutor or Head of Year if they are struggling with organisation, homework tasks or anything else related so that the school can help and support with this.
- Adopt a REACH mindset towards homework and take pride in their work, recognising the benefits it brings.

Expectations of Teachers

In setting homework, the teacher's role is to carefully select appropriate tasks linked to the learning taking place, ensure that it is explained and modelled well, as well as detailed clearly on Satchel One. In order to achieve this, teachers will:

- For years 7 and 8, set a 30 minute* homework task on a fortnightly basis for the subject area.
- For year 9, set a 40 minute* homework task on a fortnightly basis for the subject area.

- For year 10, set a 50 minute* homework task on a fortnightly basis for the subject area.
 - For year 11, set a 60 minute* homework task on a fortnightly basis for the subject area.
 - For years 12 and 13, 5 hours of home study on a weekly basis should be carried out for each subject, including independent study and homework set.
- *timings are approximate and may increase around key assessment points*
- Adjust and scaffold tasks appropriately for learners with individual needs and considerations.
 - Link tasks set to current, recent or near future learning taking place in the classroom.
 - Detail what is expected concisely and clearly on Satchel One.
 - Allow students at least 7 days to complete.
 - Provide modelled example(s) and/or website links, where possible.
 - Print out resources for students when appropriate to support all learners in completing the tasks.
 - Give feedback, either written or verbal, to all learners during lesson time on or not long after the due date, so they know how well they have done and their next steps
 - Reward excellent homework effort in line with our whole school REACH agenda to recognise students who engage consistently well.
 - Give sanctions (time during a detention after school to catch up on the work missed) to those students who do not engage well on a regular basis with their homework.
 - Inform parents and carers if they have any concerns about a student's homework.

Expectations of Heads of Department

In supporting their students and colleagues with homework, the Head of Department's role is to ensure consistency of tasks being set across the department for each year group and to oversee teacher adherence in line with the homework policy. In this way, every Head of Department will:

- Ensure that the teachers in their department know and apply the expectations.
- Develop a departmental strategy for homework which is consistent across the department.
- Maintain a level of consistency in terms of task types across classes and year groups.
- Ensure that homework tasks are accessible and appropriately adjusted for learners with individual needs.
- Provide department CPDL to support best homework practice in their subject area
- Oversee the tasks entered on Satchel One on a regular basis and provide support where necessary for class teachers and/or students.

Expectations of Parents/Carers

Parents and carers will make their best efforts to support and remind students about their homework. They will inform the school via a note or email if their child has been unable to complete homework and the reason why. Some tips for supporting your child with their homework include:

- Check the Satchel One app regularly with them.
- Ask to see some of their completed work and take an interest in this.
- Test them on key words or knowledge they have been tasked with learning.
- Reward them for their efforts.
- Help students structure their time to complete homework on a regular basis.
- Remove distractions such as mobile phones/games consoles during their home learning completion time.
- Provide a quiet space for them to sit with access to the internet if needed.
- Be available if possible to oversee them completing their work or help them if they're unsure.
- Support the school by reminding your child of the benefits of homework now and in the future.
- Engage with the parent forums and surveys to provide your feedback.

Expectations of Tutors and Heads of Year

All tutors and heads of year will ensure that they support students with homework by:

- Keeping a regular check on homework rewards and sanctions from class teachers.
- Giving students a weekly slot during tutor time to have some discussion with their peers about work they have completed at home or plan to do.
- Supporting students with accessing the Satchel One app and navigating around it.
- Keeping in contact with parents/carers regarding any general homework concerns.
- Reminding students of the importance and benefits of homework.
- Celebrating students' efforts.
- Offering a safe space to discuss homework worries or concerns.
- Supporting, advising and giving guidance to those who are struggling.
- Monitor completion of homework and intervene where any students are not completing work on a regular basis.

Expectations of Senior Leaders

All senior leaders will ensure that they support teacher and students with homework by:

- Providing appropriate guidance to staff on expectations and using the Satchel One system.
- Overseeing the provision of homework across the school and ensuring a level of consistency is achieved.
- Provide training and guidance on the most effective homework.
- Liaising with HOYs & HODs regarding homework concerns and putting support in place where required.
- Carrying out student, staff and parent voice to ensure the current system is fit for purpose and to continually improve our provision.
- Celebrate and acknowledge homework successes of students and teachers.