



HOMEWORK POLICY



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Key information

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Introduction

This policy has been drawn up in consultation with teachers, parents, governors and pupils to ensure that all parties deal with homework in a consistent manner across the school. In addition parents, carers and pupils will know and understand the expectations around homework.

This policy should be read in conjunction with our policies on behaviour and other curriculum policies (eg Teaching and Learning). The overall purpose of this policy is to clearly define the rationale behind the setting of homework, the submission of homework and what the procedures are if homework is late.

Aims of Homework

We believe homework is a valuable part of our pupils' education and reflects our commitment to providing a high quality education which will help to equip our children with a good command of the Greek language. Homework can be of benefit in a number of ways. For example, it enables children to:

- Encourage students to develop good study habits
- Practise and consolidate skills they have learned in class
- Extend their knowledge through research and investigation
- Involve their parents in their education
- Revise and prepare for any assessment

How We Will Achieve These Aims

Homework will be:

- Entered clearly into the child's homework planner (children with additional needs should be supported with this). Homework assignments are also uploaded weekly to the school's drive under the "Weekly Lessons and Homework" folder, which is shared with parents. This ensures easy access to assignments, lesson materials, and updates.

- Set regularly and with a suitable timescale
- Appropriate in terms of the level of challenge
- Clearly understood by the pupil
- Reviewed appropriately when returned to school
- Valued by staff, pupils, parents/carers
- Returned punctually (to complete for the next lesson)

Aims How is Homework Organised

Every child is issued with a homework planner which he/she is expected to carry to every lesson. At the start of the lesson, planners should be placed on the desk for the teacher to see and be easily accessible for comments to be entered by either teacher or child. In years A and A+ it may be necessary for teachers to check that pupils have copied down the homework correctly. It is also good practice to produce information sheets when appropriate for more complex homework, which gives clear instructions/guidelines as to what is expected for that piece of work.

Homework planners should, where possible, be checked and signed by teachers. This can be carried out during a registration time whilst pupils are engaged in personalised learning activities.

The planners should also be signed by the parents. If the planner has not been signed by the child's parent, the Teacher then indicates this by writing 'NS' (meaning 'not signed') and the date alongside the space for parental signatures. The child should return with the planner signed for the following lesson. If it is regularly unsigned, (3-4 times a term) the Teacher should make contact with the child's parent.

Correct use of Planners

All pupils should:

- Enter all homework correctly, write down all the details they were given (support will be given to pupils that find this challenging)
- Remember to enter the day or date it is due in
- Show their planner to their parent or carer every weekend

- Make sure the parent/carer has signed it
- Make a note of any outstanding homework
- Take pride in their planner – maintaining its appearance as best as possible.

Suggested Homework Amounts

- **A, A+, B:** 30 minutes for each lesson
- **Γ, Δ, Ε, ΣΤ:** 45 to 60 minutes for each lesson

Parents should note that if a homework task is proving too difficult or challenging, the activity/exercise should be stopped and a note should be placed in the homework planner explaining this. We do not wish for pupils to spend too long on homework tasks (see time recommendations above) causing unnecessary distress. The staff member responsible for that homework will then work with the pupil to explain and support understanding following a note regarding the homework.

Holiday Homework:

At the Greek Community School of Newcastle we value highly that holiday times are family times, particularly for some around certain holiday festivals or religious observances. We therefore encourage Teachers to be mindful when setting homework during holidays – keeping any tasks set as minimal and purposeful.

Project and Assessed Work:

Often project work is set by school (e.g. school plays) which involves completing a larger task over a longer period of time. In these circumstances Teachers should provide pupils and parents with a scaffold of expectations suggesting what should be completed per week. This then sets expectations to all for a good-quality finished piece of project-work.

Teachers may set preparation for assessed work, however fully assessed pieces of work should not be set as homework tasks for obvious reasons.

Submission of Homework

The vast majority of pupils at the Greek Community School of Newcastle submit homework on time and to at least a satisfactory standard. However, if the homework is not handed in at the appropriate time this will be pursued by the Teacher who initiated the work.