

## **Malbank School Homework Policy**

**2016**

### **Rational for homework**

Malbank is committed to providing purposeful learning opportunities outside the classroom environment in the form of homework activities for all students. The fundamental aim of this homework is to support and progress students' learning through varied and meaningful tasks which help develop important skills. Homework tasks are an essential part of the whole learning experience and Malbank aims to work in partnership with students and parents/carers to ensure that homework is not only integral to learning, but also valued by all involved. As with the learning in the classroom, homework is set to help students fulfil their potential, and it will be set regularly to encourage students to work independently. Students will be expected to use their school planners to help organise their homework and examination revision and coursework. Parents/carers are actively encouraged to check these planners and help in the development of their child's learning. Malbank recognises the need to support students both inside and outside the classroom and will strive to provide extra help for students who are having genuine difficulty with homework.

### **Aims of Homework**

Homework enables students to:

- Build stronger work habits, particularly in relation to independent learning. The ability to work without the support of a teacher or other students is vital in the latter stages of secondary education and beyond.
- Understand their responsibility for their own learning.
- Reinforce Knowledge and skills taught in lessons.
- Boost their academic achievement and progress.
- Understand that learning is a lifelong process that continues beyond the classroom.

It allows teachers to:

- Engage parental support and cooperation.
- Further develop channels of home school communication.
- Use homework as a form of pupil assessment to judge progress.

### **Implementation of Homework**

- It is expected that students produce homework to a good standard in relation to their age, ability and circumstances.
- Homework will be differentiated to meet the needs of all students within the school to provide an appropriate degree to challenge to all.
- Generally, students will have more than one night to complete homework tasks.
- Tasks will be wide ranging and varied, with the structure of the homework explained clearly to all students.
- Homework will be monitored regularly and marked in line with the school marking and feedback policy.

### **The role of the student**

- To listen to homework instructions given by the classroom teacher.
- To ensure that homework is recorded in their planner.
- To ensure that work is completed to the best of their ability and handed in on time.
- To inform the class teacher of any difficulties, wherever possible, before the hand in date.

### **The role of the subject teacher**

- To set homework for the class that interests students, offers relevance and meaning and builds upon the work covered in the scheme of work.
- To give students clear instructions regarding the requirements of the task during the course of the lesson.
- Where ever possible, publish the homework task on INSIGHT so that students and their parents have access to the task materials.
- To check that homework is completed and maintain records of this.
- To ensure that students receive feedback from their homework.
- To ensure that homework rewards and sanctions are applied fairly to each student.

### **The role of the curriculum leader**

- To model best practice for homework and plan for the regular sharing of good practice at departmental meetings.
- To monitor the frequency and quality of homework set and completed by regular scrutiny of student work.
- To have clear and fair rewards and sanctions for homework across the department and ensure that they are applied consistently across the department.

### **The role of the form tutor**

- To have a meaningful discussion with students about homework on a weekly basis.
- To check that homework planners are updated and signed on a weekly basis.
- To provide the opportunity in tutor periods to celebrate the successes of students.

- To raise ongoing individual concerns with student homework should be raised with the Progress Manager for that year.

### **The role of the parent/carers**

- To check that homework is recorded clearly in the homework planner and sign in the space provided to confirm that they have done so.
- To help their child organise their time to ensure that homework is not left to the last minute or forgotten.
- To provide a suitable, quiet place to work at home.
- To take a positive and active interest in the work completed at home rather than just insisting that the work is just completed.
- To make the school aware if there are any issues with homework that cannot be resolved at home. Contact the class teacher in the first instance who will be glad to help, followed then by the subject curriculum leader.

### **Homework rewards**

- High quality homework will be praised publically in class.
- If appropriate, homework should be included in classroom displays.
- Recognition of homework excellence should be shared with parents via the pupil planner or praise telephone calls.
- Exceptional efforts will be displayed in school public areas.

### **Homework sanctions**

- When homework is not completed, it will be recorded on lesson monitor as a grade 7.
- Class teachers will discuss with students, inform parents via planner or telephone call and a detention issued if appropriate.
- Curriculum leader will discuss with the referred student, apply a departmental level sanction and contact parents directly if necessary.
- Progress managers will discuss with the student, apply a higher level sanction and refer to Head of Key stage where appropriate.

RMP June 2016

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Headteacher

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chair of Governors