

Homework Guidance for Parents and Students

Saint John Houghton Catholic Voluntary Academy

Part of the Saint Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Core Principles and Guidance

Homework is set at Saint John Houghton CVA to all year groups. This is to help facilitate a successful knowledge-based curriculum Intent, implementation and impact across all subjects; homework will be based on **knowledge** and the **retention of knowledge**. Therefore, all homework all Years 7 to 11 should:

- Be clearly related to the curriculum being taught – **Knowledge driver** or **Exam specification**.
- Be manageable within the time limit given.
- Be challenging but achievable for all students.
- Build self-confidence and success – remembering more and knowing more.
- Recognise the work and effort of the student.

Homework tasks should only fall into one of these defined categories:

1. Knowledge based tasks – remembering more, knowing more. e.g. Carousel knowledge tasks, short recall tasks, Century Science retrieval practice, Sparx Maths.
2. Practising skills leading from that knowledge e.g. exam questions in KS4 (Key Stage 4)
3. Revision – to support long term retention of knowledge and ultimately exam success – across all years.

The complexity and demand of homework tasks should increase as students' progress through the curriculum of each subject. Students in Year 7 and Year 8 should focus on tasks that reflect category one and three. Students in Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11 should encompass elements from all three categories, as their curriculum become more complex, their schema develops and the need to introduce more complex skills in lessons increases.

If **no formal homework is set** by a teacher, then there is an automatic expectation that students will read for 30 mins: either fiction or factual reading around the subject. This includes the use of on-line journals and website.

Time Expectations:

Keys stage 3 Students should spend approximately one hour per weekday. All students should expect to receive homework tasks weekly from Core subjects and at least fortnightly from non-core subjects.

Key Stage 4 Students should spend approximately two hours per weekday. All students should expect to receive homework tasks weekly from all subject areas.

Homework online Platforms	
All Homework is set on Arbor – Student and parent logins required. <i>The student diary can be used to support the recording of Homework</i>	
Online Platform	How to access
Sparx Maths	Student first name and last name School name Student Date of birth Password
Century	Student school email address Student own password
Carousel Learning	Students first name and last name – access is through the link on Homework set on Arbor
M.S. Teams	Student school email address Student school password

Kerboodle	Student first initial and surname (all lower case) Password Institution Code = Zat8
-----------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Monitoring of Homework

Subjects would like homework to be part of the Learning process for students and viewed as worthwhile and meaningful. Teachers recognise that sanctions have an extremely limited impact on students who do not engage with homework and that a cultural shift towards valuing homework needs to take place.

All Subjects	
Action	Outcome
Completed Homework	Recorded in Arbor– visible to Parents and students Virtue Points available.
Excellent engagement with Homework is recorded in Attitude to Learning for each student.	All Students entered for Homework Termly prize Draw. After each Data snapshot the students with the most “always completes homework” are entered into a prize draw for each year. Two winners from each year group receive Gift voucher.
Missed Homework	Recorded in Arbor – Visible to Parents and students
Students not engaging with Homework’s	Class teacher to contact home – via email/Phone
Multiple missing Homework’s	Curriculum Leader to contact home – Via email/Phone.
Students persistently not engaging with Homework after parental contact	Liaison with Key Stage Lead - is this a whole school problem?



If parents and students are having problems accessing the Arbor please go to <https://www.stjohnhoughtonilkeston.srscmat.co.uk/information/arbor/> for more support or email schooloffice@sjh.srscmat.co.uk

Alternatively, students can ask their form Tutors for help.