



Kings College Homework Policy 2022-2023

Kings College believes:

- We must provide students with regular opportunities to aid their own progress while outside the classroom.
- We must embed learning outside the classroom as routine.
- We must facilitate student responsibility and ownership to develop the independence required for success in and beyond secondary school.

Students at Kings College receive homework every lesson, every day, except in subjects where this is not appropriate, such as Core PE, IT and PSHE. The purpose of all homework tasks should align with one or more of the following:

- to review and practice knowledge and skills acquired in class
- to encourage more in-depth exploration of topics introduced in class
- to apply skills they've learned in class to new situations
- to prepare for future classes
- to develop student self-discipline and personal organisation
- to encourage independent study.

Teachers must:

1. Set purposeful and relevant tasks
2. Set clear and precise expectations
3. Acknowledge completion of all homework
4. Address misconceptions
5. Use professional discretion if a homework task has not been fully completed.

Subject	Homework
English	Method: Homework tasks are designed to solidify skills worked on in the lessons, or context or knowledge tasks designed to further the students' skill base. Tasks are either linked to the topics studied in lesson or designed to promote and encourage reading for pleasure. At KS4, homework tasks are set in order to practise the skills required for the GCSE exams for Literature and Language as well to clarify the specific content-based knowledge needed in Literature.

	<p>Rationale: Homework tasks set by the English department are designed to secure and further the key skills of vocabulary, memorising, retrieving, practising, analysing, describing, narrating and CUPS. These tasks are also designed to ensure that students are developing their confidence in all aspects of English.</p>
Maths	<p>Method: Maths homework is set each lesson and takes the form of one of three types of task; a core skills sheet comprising 25 questions to test student's core maths skills; a topic based homework used to consolidate work on a current topic or to interleave topics previously taught; an online homework using the MyMaths platform, which ensures students are comfortable with online learning and learning from an existing or recent topic. In KS4 the format is similar, however the topic based homework tasks focus more on exam style questions to ensure students have ample opportunity to practice exam questions.</p> <p>Rationale: The homework tasks are set to compliment the teaching in class, by giving students the opportunity to embed learned knowledge. Regular focus on core skills allows students to become competent at core Maths skills, which in turn will decrease the load on student's working memory.</p>
Science	<p>Method: Science homework follows a specific formula at both KS3 and KS4. At KS3, students will receive five questions every lesson based on prior learning for the topic they are currently learning. Three questions will test recall of knowledge, one will test understanding, whilst the fifth requires a written explanation. The answers to the previous lesson's homework will be reviewed at the start of each lesson and students will make corrections and improvements using DART pen.</p> <p>At KS4 students will be asked to complete a Core Question sheet for each lessons' homework. These sheets cover retrieval practice questions from particular areas of the specification. Teachers may assign particular sheets to support learning of the current topic or as space retrieval practice linked to previous topics. Students will attempt the questions in blue or black ink, before using the reverse side to check their answers. They will use DART pens make corrections prior to submission. Teachers will check completion of homework and address any common misconceptions of gaps in knowledge.</p> <p>Rationale: Homework set by the Science Department focuses on developing the retrieval and practice of knowledge covered in Science lessons. KS3 homework guides students in reflecting upon the knowledge acquired within each topic, whilst KS4 homework provides students with structured spaced retrieval activities. The routine format of homework in Science helps students to stay organised and provides a framework for students to build their own revision habits around.</p>
History	<p>Method: In History students will be asked to complete tasks that relate the content taught in the lesson. In KS3 this may take the form of short form questions, a task that is focused upon the core skill for their year group (e.g. narrative responses) or the development of another key historical skill. Homeworks will usually be worksheets given to students but may occasionally be tasks carried out directly in the student's books depending on the nature of the lesson taught. KS4 homework will focus more on completing tasks that reflect the nature of the questions that are specific to</p>

	<p>the topic being taught (i.e. exam-style questions). As the course progresses this will expand to include recap and revision questions based upon topics taught earlier in the course.</p> <p>Rationale: The History department's rationale is to give students the opportunity to independently apply previously taught knowledge to questions that help develop and improve their ability to access questions they will be completing in class. It also aims to cement student's understanding of key concepts and knowledge taught during the course.</p>
Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (PRE)	<p>Method: PRE students will be required to complete worksheet based homework that relates to the content of the lesson and at times content taught earlier in the curriculum. The tasks will be short answer questions that require the students to demonstrate their understanding of key terms and concepts and apply them in a specific way.</p> <p>Rationale: The rationale behind this approach is to inculcate the students' understanding of the core philosophical areas and theories that are covered within the course across KS3 and KS4. By continuously returning to previously taught knowledge these theories and concepts become more familiar and easier to apply when asked more challenging questions.</p>
Geography	<p>Method: The Geography Department sets homework primarily focused on embedding the skills and knowledge learnt within the classroom. We occasionally include some preparation-based tasks for future content so that the students can use their own knowledge to add depth to longer written tasks. Tasks are always linked to the lesson content and made achievable within the guided time. Key stage 4 students will also be set exam questions aimed at helping with their retrieval and understanding of exam vocabulary.</p> <p>Rationale: The Geography department recognises the importance of homework that reinforces previous learning. Geography homework will give students the opportunities to practice and refine their skills and help them become independent learners. Our homework is purposeful and meaningful so that our students can understand the impact it has on their learning so that they can be reflective learners but also prepared for future exams.</p>
Languages	<p>Method: The Languages Department sets homework clearly focused on supporting and improving the acquisition and comprehension of Spanish and French language learnt in class. For Key Stage 3 students this frequently includes recall quizzes on vocabulary and grammar learnt in class, from Brain Banks, to reinforce and commit these to memory. Writing tasks about engaging topics are also often set, to consolidate the learning of this new vocabulary and put into practice the conjugation of different verb tenses. In Key Stage 4 homework is set on a website called Memrise, specialising in the acquisition and comprehension of vocabulary and grammar. In addition, students are set homework to prepare responses to the 80 GCSE General Conversation questions, which form part of their GCSE Speaking examination. Preparing their responses allows them not only to use language learnt in class but also to apply the skills they have learnt to new questions in the target language, encouraging greater linguistic spontaneity.</p> <p>Rationale: The acquisition and comprehension of key vocabulary and grammar is essential to reinforce prior learning and ensure attainment of grades 4-9 at GCSE. The Languages Department recognise the need for</p>

	<p>regular recall so that all students know the minimum AQA core vocabulary. We also encourage independent learning, supported by a variety of language learning websites such as Linguascope, Duolingo and Memrise.</p>
Art	<p>Method: The Art Department sets homework primarily focused on the practice of practical skills acquired in class, preparation-based tasks for future content and once a project we set a homework that develop students' ability to work independently to develop ideas. Tasks are always linked to the lesson content and made achievable within the guided time.</p> <p>Rationale: As a department we recognise the importance of practice within Art to enable students to become skilful with a range of techniques and homework enables an opportunity for independent and reflective practice. We have looked to develop independence skills through ideas-based homeworks every project to ensure that we are encouraging imaginative thought and preparing students for the development of personal and reflective work.</p>
PE (KS4 Sports Studies)	<p>Method: The Physical Education Department sets homework primarily focused on embedding the skills and knowledge learnt from within the classroom, as well as the theory of the practical sessions. Tasks are always linked to the lesson content, past exams and tasks set by OCR. Key stage 4 students will also be set exam questions aimed at helping with their retrieval and understanding of exam vocabulary. Coursework will be submitted at the end of the course for moderating and then be sent off to OCR for assessing.</p> <p>Rationale: The Physical Education Department recognises the importance of homework that reinforces previous learning. PE homework will give students the opportunities to practice and refine their skills and help them become independent learners. Included in the homework is the practical sessions that pupils will need to take independently if they are part of an outside club. The homework is for pupils to embed their leaning so that they can be reflective, and learners will also build towards their exams.</p>
Performing Arts	<p>Method: The Performing Arts Department sets homework at the end of every lesson. All homework is designed to reinforce class learning or prepare for the next lesson.</p> <p>At KS3 In Music homework focuses around practicing theory elements or putting in practice elements from the lesson. In Dance and Drama homework consists of review and reflection of their own or peers work or structured research tasks to collect specific information.</p> <p>At KS4 students are across all 3 subjects are set short written tasks that will support either information gathering or reflection and review tasks to ensure they are assessing their skills and work.</p> <p>Rationale: Despite its practical nature, the Performing Arts department recognises the benefit of homework to help reinforce work learnt in our homework that practice a skill or reflect on work completed and to prepare the students for the next lesson. It is important for students in Performing Arts to be build self and peer reflective skills ahead of KS4 as this forms and important part of their KS4 syllabus.</p>

IT/Computing	<p>Method: The IT/Computer Science department sets homework based on practicing the skills acquired in lesson and developing further thinking on curriculum topics. Tasks are always linked to lesson content and achievable in the given time.</p> <p>Rationale: The IT/Computer Science department recognises the importance of homework that reinforces previous learning. Our homework is purposeful and meaningful so that our students can understand the impact it has on their learning so that they can be reflective learners but also prepared for future exams.</p>
Design Technology	<p>Method: Homework in DT is to be set every lesson and should not be dependent on IT for the tasks to be completed. At KS3, students will receive a series of questions based on prior learning within the context of their current design project. Typically, there will be questions to test recall of knowledge, a question that requires students to explain aspects of their project work and one that will require students to show understanding. The answers to the previous lesson's homework will be reviewed at the start of each lesson and students will make corrections and improvements using DART pen.</p> <p>At KS4 homework will be pre-loading knowledge through the use of the 'DT The Works' resources that can combine as knowledge organisers with comprehension questions to be completed in books. These tasks should aim to help with the introduction of new content or reinforcement of tasks/skills acquired in lessons. Retrieval practice in the form of students creating a reflective piece of writing for manufacturing procedures discussing use of the tools, skills, techniques and relevant Health and Safety developed during the lesson. Or development of sketching and graphic communication skills.</p> <p>Rationale: Homework set by the Design Technology Department focuses on developing the retrieval and practice of knowledge covered in both theory and practical lessons. Homework set in Design Technology attempts to establish good revision routines for students by regularly recalling prior skills and learning.</p>
Media Studies	<p>Method: The Media department sets homework based on practicing the skills acquired in lesson and developing further thinking on curriculum topics. Tasks are always linked to lesson content and achievable in the given time.</p> <p>Rationale: The Media department recognises the importance of homework that reinforces previous learning. Our homework is purposeful and meaningful so that our students can understand the impact it has on their learning so that they can be reflective learners but also prepared for future exams.</p>

Please note that due to the nature of the subjects, homework is not set in Core PE or PSHE.