

# ENFIELD GRAMMAR SCHOOL



## HOME LEARNING POLICY

**Approved by:** Standards Committee

**Approved:** September 2024

**Next review due by:** September 2025

## **EGS Home Learning Policy**

At EGS, we believe that home learning plays an important part in a student's learning and that well planned, purposeful home learning has a significant impact on raising student achievement.

We believe home learning is important because it:

- consolidates and reinforces skills, techniques and understanding learned in the classroom to be further practised
- develops self-discipline, supports good organisation, consistent study patterns and time management
- extends learning, permitting more rapid progress to be made in school
- allows students to take ownership and responsibility for learning
- develops research skills
- develops students' motivation to study effectively on their own and encourages students to be self-sufficient, work independently and be resourceful
- enables parents to be involved and support their child's learning
- creates channels for home-school dialogue

### **Practice**

'Home learning' is any work or activity that is set to be done outside the timetabled curriculum. It contains an element of independent study in that it is not usually directly supervised by a teacher. Not all home learning is done at home; in fact, for some students who find it hard to work at home, or for some tasks, which may require resources (books, software, equipment) more readily available at school, it is necessary or desirable to carry out the task at school. Staff are required to set and assess appropriate home learning on a regular basis.

All students are expected to complete home learning tasks. Parents/carers are encouraged to take an active role in the process.

### **Guidelines to staff**

Home learning tasks should:

- be set regularly according to the school's timetable with reasonable deadlines
- be recorded and resources (where appropriate) made available on Google Classrooms
- be varied and purposeful
- be scaffolded, where necessary, so that they are accessible for all students
- be set in class with sufficient time for clear explanation and recording
- positively encourage the support of parents/carers
- be checked and acknowledged within a reasonable timescale

Excellent effort and work should be rewarded using the school's merit system. If students do not submit homework on time, they will receive a Learning Reminder 2 and then a Learning Reminder 3 if the work is still not submitted in the subsequent lesson, resulting in a detention.

At EGS, the following are recognised as Home learning tasks:

- investigations
- tasks that involve others e.g. interviews
- extended writing
- research – including use of the internet
- practical work
- reading
- revision e.g. notes, past-papers, GCSEpod, BBC bitesize
- studying and learning notes or vocabulary
- drafting and redrafting work
- creative tasks such as drawing, designing or making
- making a short film/animation
- problem solving
- watching and reviewing video clips or TV programmes
- preparing presentations
- listening
- report writing
- practising skills and concepts learned during the lesson
- projects
- memorising
- calculations/numeracy
- improving/modifying classwork to improve outcome

### **Frequency:**

Home learning should be set in accordance with the home learning timetable. The following indicates the amount of time that should be spent on home learning:

### **Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9)**

Home learning is set according to the number of curriculum lessons per fortnight. The minimum is one homework per cycle (Art, Citizenship, Music, Computing, DT Food). Subjects seen more often will set homework once a week (i.e. twice a fortnight). These include English, Maths, Science, French, and Geography. It is recommended that students should be spending about 20 – 40

minutes per subject. Staff will determine the handing in dates. History has project work set each half term. Year 7 students will be set shorter home learning tasks during the first few weeks of the Autumn Term in order to give them more time to adjust to their new routine and environment.

#### **Key Stage 4 (Years 10 and 11)**

Each subject will set in the region of 45 – 90 minutes per week, as appropriate. Staff have increasing flexibility to negotiate handing in dates with their classes. Year 11 students will generally have revision home learning in the two weeks prior to the December mock examinations.

#### **Key Stage 5 (Years 12 and 13)**

In the Sixth Form, students are expected to engage in out-of-lessons work that goes far beyond what is actually set for home learning. In many cases, the grade achieved in a level 3 (Key stage 5 qualification) will depend on how much reading around the subject, extra work or research a student undertakes during a course. There are no limits to this kind of work, although a sensible balance needs to be maintained. Every hour of lesson time should be matched by an hour of private study/home learning.

#### **Guidelines to students**

Students are expected to take responsibility for their home learning by:

- checking Google Classroom each day as a constant and reliable diary of what home learning is due. (Students may record information in their diaries too if access to internet is not available).
- asking the teacher to explain instructions again where necessary
- completing the set tasks and seeking help if they are having difficulty
- keeping to deadlines by attempting home learning before the deadline and see staff if the need arises.

#### **Guidelines to parents/carers**

Parents/carers are asked to:

- take an interest in their child's work either by logging into Google Classroom and seeing the deadlines and tasks set or signing their diary each week, if internet is not available.
- offer praise when their child achieves significant success
- give as much encouragement as possible
- inform the teacher, via the diary or email, if there is a genuine reason for home learning not done
- contact the Form Tutor if they have concerns about the frequency/quality of home learning