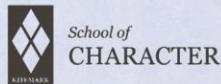


30th November 2023
FTu/SSn



Dear Parents/Carers,

Homework: Systems and Processes

Based on feedback from our school community, we have made changes to our homework systems and processes to ensure that we are providing the right level of support for our students to complete work outside of the classroom. We have implemented the following:

- We review missed homework logs on a weekly basis, instead of cumulatively. If we notice that a student has received multiple no homework codes they are issued with a compulsory homework catch-up session in the form of a reflection.
- If a student is issued with compulsory catch-up sessions over multiple weeks, we will call a parental meeting to discuss barriers and additional assistance that can be provided to ensure that homework is completed.

Due to these changes, I would like to take a moment to discuss the significance of homework in your child's education and development. Homework is an integral part of the learning process, playing a crucial role in reinforcing classroom lessons and fostering essential skills.

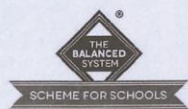
Consolidation of Learning: Homework provides students with the opportunity to reinforce and consolidate what they have learned in class. It serves as a means to practice new concepts, helping to cement them in their memory. Repetition is a key component of learning, and homework allows students to revisit and apply what they've been taught.

Development of Responsibility: Completing homework assignments instils a sense of responsibility and discipline in students. It teaches them to manage their time effectively, set priorities, and meet deadlines. These are valuable life skills that will serve them well in their academic journey and beyond.

Assessment Preparation: Homework serves as preparation for assessments and exams. By regularly engaging with assigned tasks, students are better equipped to perform well on tests. It's an opportunity for them to identify areas where they may need additional support and seek assistance before evaluations.

Independent Learning: Homework encourages independent learning. It requires students to think critically, solve problems, and apply what they've learned without the immediate guidance of a teacher. This autonomy fosters a deeper understanding of the material and promotes self-directed learning.

Parental Involvement: Homework also offers an excellent opportunity for parents to be involved in their child's education. Reviewing assignments, discussing concepts, and providing support can strengthen the parent-child connection and contribute to academic success.



The Malling School
Beech Road
East Malling
Kent
ME19 6DH
Tel:
01732 840995
Web:
themallingschool.kent.sch.uk



It is important to note that homework is aligned with learning objectives and provides valuable data to our teachers to plan the most effective lessons possible. The goal is not to overwhelm students but to enhance their understanding and skills. If you ever have concerns about the amount or nature of homework assignments, we are always happy to discuss these further and run regular drop-in sessions for you to discuss concerns. There is also further information about homework at The Malling School on our website: <https://www.themallingschool.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Homework&pid=76>

With this in mind, we would also like to use this opportunity to gain your valuable feedback regarding homework. If you would like to share your thoughts with us, please find the link to our survey here: <https://forms.office.com/e/SzVxaQrk0X>



MFL Homework Support: The MFL department will be changing the way homework is set from January as a response to parental feedback. The platform which will be used is Pearson Active Learn and this will be live from January 2024. Instructions on how to access the new homework will be added to the website and an InTouch message will be sent with a link to this.

MFL students are also invited to work independently on the famous language learning app, Duolingo. Duolingo can be downloaded free and the tasks allow students to practice some basics in each language on core vocabulary and grammar in a fun and engaging way. The app also encourages students to practice more often. The MFL department will also be running a Year 8 after-school homework club in T18 from 3.30pm – 4.00pm on Wednesdays for French and Spanish. If you would like to access this, please ask your child to let the MFL department know.

We appreciate your ongoing support in fostering a positive and productive learning environment for your child. Together, we can ensure that every student has the tools they need to succeed academically and personally.

Thank you for your commitment to your child's education.

Yours sincerely,

Ms F Turner
Assistant Headteacher