

E-ACT POLICY

PARKWOOD ACADEMY

CHILD PROTECTION

Date agreed by Governors	
Date of review	
Responsible officer	Principal / Business Director

Parkwood Academy

Values

At Parkwood we:



Aims

At Parkwood we will:

- Strive for high educational standards
- Nurture greater integration and community cohesion
- Reflect a culturally inclusive ethos
- Actively seek to collaborate and establish partnerships with organisations that will contribute to the development of such an ethos
- Work with and involve key stakeholders, partners and communities
- Ensure that key stakeholder groups, including parents, staff and the local authority, are represented on boards of governors
- Ensure that all staff, community mentors and champions are positive role models for the students
- Provide a programme of high quality continuing professional development and training for all staff to underpin and sustain improvements in teaching and learning
- Emphasise in students the traditional values of self discipline, responsibility, respect, trust and cooperation.

Parkwood Academy

Homework

Statement of Policy

The Academy believes that homework is likely to be used positively when students feel that the demands on them are realistic, consistent across the curriculum and worthwhile in terms of what they are learning. The Academy is committed to ensuring that both staff and students use homework effectively with clear guidelines about what is appropriate, how much is expected and when it is to be set.

Homework will be set regularly and students will be encouraged to establish good homework habits from the beginning of their school career. Assessment of homework will form an important part of the overall assessment policy procedures.

Statement of Policy Review

The Local Board of Governors has agreed that this policy will be reviewed on an annual basis. This review will take into consideration all aspects of applicable legislation and advice current at the time of the review. The next 'Period of Review' will be **SEPTEMBER 2011**.

The aims are to

- Encourage parents to become involved in their children's work through understanding and discussing homework tasks.
- To give all students the opportunity to consolidate and extend what they have learned in the Academy and to make best use of an effective way of improving learning.
- To help students to plan their time and develop confidence in learning.
- To help students develop independent learning skills, to use now and in their future life.
- To inform parents about their children's learning and the approaches and techniques used in Academy.

Use Variety

Staff must set homework which is varied in content, sufficiently differentiated and which is seen by students as being of value. While written tasks are often useful, many useful tasks are not written, e.g. reading from a textbook, locating a resource in the Library, collecting some materials or equipment for practical work, surveys of opinion, learning vocabulary and specific tasks for group work within the independent learning schemes.

Homework should not penalise students who do not work as quickly as other students for reasons related to individual needs, nor should it result in higher ability students receiving less homework than other students.

Set and Mark Regularly

In order to emphasise the contribution homework makes to learning, homework must be set regularly and, where appropriate, promptly and constructively marked. However, tasks must not be set just for the sake of it. In-valid homework would interfere with valid out-of-Academy activities.

Use the Academy Planner

All students have an Academy Planner in which they note down what homework is set for each lesson.

The teacher must ensure that all students do this. The planner is signed by the parent(s)/carer(s) and form tutor each week. Where a homework is not completed, the teacher can mark a red 'H' in the diary to indicate this to parents and form tutor. The Parent-Student-Academy contract stresses the need for parents to support their child's education, through assisting in homework and providing homework facilities at home.

Homework Timetable

Each year a homework timetable will be constructed for each year group showing which nights subjects will be set for homework. Staff must endeavour to follow this timetable in their setting of homework, which will be set for approximately two subjects each night.

Reasonable Time Demands

The amount of time to be spent on homework increases as students develop their independence with maturity. The approximate **time per subject per night increases from 30 minutes in Year 7 to 60 minutes in Year 11.**

Help in Difficulty

Staff must encourage students to return for help if they seem to be spending excessive amounts of time on homework.

Ensuring it Happens

Learning Leaders have responsibility for making sure that teachers within their department know, understand and implement this policy.

The Nature of Homework

No one form of homework is prescribed and, as such, homework may take many forms, taking into account the nature of the subject and the ages and abilities of the students.

Some of the forms homework may take will include:

- specially prepared homework tasks that extend classwork
- learning homework
- research assignments
- practical exercises
- longer term assignments/projects/coursework.

Marking of Homework

Staff are expected to mark homework regularly in accordance with the school assessment policy.