

HOLYWELL SCHOOL

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Values Based Education

Tuesday 17th July 2018.

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware we have been reviewing our homework policy over the last term and many parents/carers have kindly been involved in the consultation process. Feedback has also been sought from staff and pupils and a working party has been developing a new homework system in light of this review. I would like to thank the parental focus group for their input and all parents who were willing to be part of the group. The result of this review means that the current fortnightly Core/Enrichment system has been abolished and replaced with weekly homework.

As of September, four pieces of homework will be set each week. Every pupil will receive English and Maths homework, along with two other pieces set by foundation subjects. Year 5 and 6 pupils are expected to spend 20-30 minutes for each piece of homework, and Year 7 and 8 are expected to spend 30-40 minutes per piece. A timetable to identify which foundation subjects are being set each week has been created and will be made available to parents/carers and pupils at the start of the Autumn term. In most cases, pupils will be given one week to complete their homework tasks. At some points in the academic year homework may not be set, e.g. in order to allow time for revision, but this will be identified on the homework calendar so that parents/carers and pupils are made aware in advance.

To improve communication and accessibility we will be introducing Show My Homework to set homework. This is a website that allows staff to set homework online, which pupils and parents/carers can view at home via the website or a downloadable app. All parents/carers and students will be issued with a log in to view individual tasks, including dates when tasks are set and due. Further information will be given next term when Show My Homework goes live on the 17th September 2018, but if you wish to find out more then please follow the link below:

https://www.showmyhomework.co.uk/user/student_parent.html

In terms of marking and assessment, pupil's homework will either be marked by their teacher, peer or self-assessed or will contribute to a larger piece of classwork that will be marked e.g. research in preparation for a project. Show My Homework also has a facility for staff to record feedback grades so we will be utilising this to report back to parents/carers and pupils.

The new homework system will be reviewed in October 2018 and again at the end of next academic year to make any changes as needed.

Yours faithfully,

Mr S Van Der Merwe.

Deputy Headteacher.



Headteacher: Mr MG Simpson MA, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Miss A Stewart - Deputy Headteacher Mr S Van Der Merwe - Assistant Headteacher: Mrs H Donnellan

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