



Homework guidelines

We are aware that there are certain pressure points throughout the year. Therefore, the rigidity of a homework timetable is not a viable option at Southend High School for Girls. That said the frequency of homework and generosity of deadline should allow all students to successfully hand in all homework. Careful mapping of homework within SoW should avoid peaks and troughs in the volume of homework distributed.

The amount of homework should taper up from Year 7 to Year 13.

The following time allocations are a guideline for homework which should be set each week per subject:

Year	Expected time allocation per homework
Year 7	30 mins per subject as stated in the homework timetable
Year 8	30-40 mins per subject as stated in the homework timetable.
Years 9, 10 & 11	1 hour per subject as stated in the homework timetable
Years 12 and 13	Minimum of 5 hours by the teacher from expected 9 hours of independent study.

For Lower School (Years 7-9), homework will be set once per week for all subjects with the exception of those subjects which have only one or two lessons per fortnight, where homework will be set every 2 weeks. For practical subjects within the Creative and Performing Arts Faculty, homework will be set every 3 weeks to complement the nature of work completed in the classroom. Students should be given a minimum of three days to complete the tasks set. However, from time-to-time students may be required to do some reading for English for the next day or bring equipment specific to a practical lesson. Year 7 should expect 30 mins per subject, Year 8 up to 40 mins per subject and Year 9 up to one hour.

Homework tasks for Lower School should focus on the following, but may include other types previously listed in 'types of homework' :

- Retrieval practice.
- Reading.
- Multiple choice questions (hinge questions) to identify misconceptions.
- The learning of key knowledge or vocabulary for min tests to support specific subject literacy.
- Short tasks to demonstrate practical application of knowledge.
- Flipped learning to give students the opportunity to self regulate and work independently in preparation for the following lesson.

Subject	Weekly	Every other week	Every three to four weeks
English	✓		
Maths	✓		
Science	Year 7 ✓	Year 8 & Year 9	
French	✓		
German	✓		
Spanish	✓		
History	✓		
Geography	✓		
RS		✓	
Art			✓
Drama			✓
Music			✓
Design Technology			✓
PE			✓
Classical Civilisation			✓

For Middle School (Yrs 10-11), one hour of homework should be set every week for each examination subject with the expectation that students will be given a minimum of three days to complete the HW set. For non-examination subjects it is at the teacher's discretion as to whether HW is set on occasions.

Homework tasks should focus on the following, but may include other types listed in 'types of homework':

- Retrieval practice
- Reading
- Examination questions
- Learning key knowledge and vocabulary
- Reading
- Structured research
- Structured note taking

Subject	Weekly	
English	✓	
Maths	✓	
Biology	✓	
Chemistry	✓	
Physics	✓	
French	✓	
German	✓	
Spanish	✓	
History	✓	
Geography	✓	
RS	✓	
Media Studies	✓	
CS	✓	
Business Studies	✓	
Art	✓	
Drama	✓	

Music	✓	
Design Technology	✓	
PE	✓	
Academic Enrichment		✓

For Upper School (Years 12-13), students are expected to undertake one hour of independent study for each hour of taught lessons; a total of 9 hours every two weeks of independent study. Part of the independent study will comprise homework set by the teacher (a minimum of 5 hours from the 9 hours should be set by the teacher). The student should also undertake additional consolidation / revision tasks, wider reading and stretch and challenge activities. Guidance on what these tasks will be will come from the department. Students are expected to make use of their non-contact time in school for independent study.

It is the expectation that students will be given a minimum of three days for completion of homework. Significant pieces of homework should have longer deadlines, for example a week for an essay. This will enable students to plan and manage their time effectively.

It is advisable to consider setting HW earlier in the lesson, rather than at the end so as to ensure that all students are clear on what needs to be done by when and have an opportunity to ask any questions.