



HEANOR GATE SCIENCE COLLEGE

“Develop all learners to achieve their full potential”
“Create a culture of aspiration”

Principal: **Mr S Huntington**



February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Years 10 and 11 - Homework

Students in these year groups take pride in their uniform, are diligent during lessons and are committed to their own learning. However, it has become evident that homework is not always consistently completed to a high standard. To support you as parents, this letter explains the rationale behind why we set homework and it acts as a guide to support you with your child's learning outside of the classroom.

Homework serves to not only improve educational attainment but also to develop independent learning skills and self-discipline in our students. It fundamentally encourages students to take ownership and responsibility for their own learning.

We believe that homework is important for students in Years 10 and 11 to:

1. Allow practice and consolidation of work done in class
2. Allow preparation for future class work
3. Developing skills in using libraries and other learning resources through independent research tasks
4. Consolidate revision and exam technique

Setting & accessing homework tasks:

The use of Google Classroom as an online platform enables students to have access to their homework tasks alongside extra resources that have been provided by their teachers. To avoid overloading students, teachers will give as much time as possible for students to complete their homework and will not set work that must be completed for the following day. There is not a “one-size fits all” policy to homework at Heanor Gate. We know that what is appropriate in one subject may not be appropriate in another.

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Below is a grid which shows the frequency, time and the type of tasks that may be set in each of the following subjects:

Subject	Example of task set	Approximate completion time
Maths	Year 10 - Hegarty maths or a consolidation worksheet Year 11 - Past examination papers, Hegarty maths or a consolidation worksheet	45 minutes per week
Science	Year 10- Week 1- Doodle quizzes with accompanying powerpoints focusing on knowledge Week 2- Exam questions Year 11 - Kognity exam questions	45 minutes per week 1 hour per week
English	. Tasks include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research • Consolidation tasks e.g. independent revision booklets • Essay responses • Exam questions 	1 hour per week
DTVA	Art - There is an expectation that students compete in competitions e.g Inktober. Students should spend at least 1 hour completing tasks that consolidate their learning and link to exam and coursework Hair & Beauty - a weekly consolidation task on examination skills Design Technology/Cambridge National in Engineering Design - Tasks are set which relate to student's chosen coursework. Consolidation of exam skills is also expected Hospitality and Catering - Tasks include producing time plans and sourcing ingredients	1 hour 1 hour 1 hour 1 hour
History or Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidation tasks to prepare for assessments • Doodle tasks • Exam questions • Students are expected to be using the revision google classroom to consolidate their learning independently 	Tasks will take between 45 minutes and 1 hour. Plus time for independent consolidation

PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective sheets to be completed termly • Home test sheets at the end of each topic • RAG questions following each assessment • Monthly flipped learning tasks 	1 of each every term
Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performing; solo and ensemble rehearsal of assessed performance pieces • Appraising; Focus on Sound lessons and tests 	15-20 minutes most days during 6 week build up to assessment Approx 1 hour per fortnight
Performing Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson logs of practical work completed • Actor's logs • Reading of texts/line learning • Research • Rehearsal of performances 	At least ½ hour per log, which may be once or twice a week Rehearsals are at the students' discretion based on their rehearsal needs and targets
Computer Science	<p>Tasks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidation activities via digital worksheets • Knowledge organiser tasks • Coursework assignments 	30-45 minutes per week
Health and Social Care	<p>Tasks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personalised tasks are set in relation to a student's coursework • Examination questions 	1 hour
MFL	<p>Tasks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grammar or vocabulary • Learning task • Online listening or reading task may be set • Drafting of speaking answers in speaking booklet • Completion of past papers 	Approximately 1 hour per week, ideally over 2-3 slots a week Little and often is most effective when consolidating a language

As a school, we really would value your support by explaining the importance of homework assignments, by encouraging and praising your child when tasks have been completed to a high standard and by providing a suitable environment for your child to consolidate their learning. Through this partnership we are confident that we can secure the very best outcomes for your child.

Yours sincerely



Miss K Wiltshire
Vice Principal – Teaching and Learning