

Malmesbury School

Our Approach to Homework

Date of Review	Reviewed/Owned by	Approved by	Date of Approval	Next Review Date	Website
Sept 2024	Anne Marie Whaley	Local Governors Board (LGB)	Oct 2024	Sept 2027	Y



Reading



Recall



Application

1. Defining Homework

The term 'homework' refers to any activities completed outside of lessons, as directed by the class teacher.

2. The Purpose of Homework

The purpose of homework at Malmesbury School is to complement the curriculum, by providing students with opportunities to reinforce their understanding of classroom concepts, spend time reading around their subject to improve cultural capital and practice the skills and implement the knowledge obtained in the lesson.

The aim is to foster a culture where learning is an ongoing process and homework provides the bridge between home and the classroom. Tasks should be challenging and teachers should balance this with ensuring that tasks are focussed and not time-consuming.

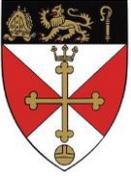
At Malmesbury School, KS3 students will only receive homework guided by three principles, whereas KS4 and KS5 teachers are advised to follow the principles, but there is an awareness that the nature of homework might be dictated by the demands of the exam board, e.g. where there is coursework or a more open-ended research task. The three principles are:

Reading – to build on cultural capital, improve reading ages and encourage engagement with reading both for pleasure and around a subject you are interested in.

Recall – ensuring students develop study skills and evolve as learners who are independent and feel equipped with the tools they need to successfully prepare for examinations.

Application – to ensure that students have opportunities to practise skills and apply their knowledge. This might be extended writing, a SPARX Maths activity, a gap-fill exercise or even an exam question.





Malmesbury School

3. Guided by Subject Areas

Each faculty/subject area has its own procedure which reflects this whole school approach which:

- provides a clear statement about faculty expectations for staff, students and parents
- sets out a practical interpretation of the systems for managing homework
- has a plan to ensure that all students are equipped for learning at home
- maps homework tasks explicitly into schemes of learning and the curriculum
- ensures there is a named individual with responsibility for monitoring the setting of homework across the subject. This will usually be the SCL

4. Setting Homework

All homework will be communicated to students via Class Charts. The task description will clearly outline:

- **What** - There will be a clear description of the task
- **Where** - Students will be instructed as to where to complete their homework
- **When** - Students will be told when homework is due. They will always be given at least 48 hours to complete homework
- **Why** - Students will be told how the task will be used and/or where it is important to complete the task
- **How** - Students will be instructed as to where helpful resources can be found and what to do if they are struggling

5. Feedback

Teachers are not expected to provide written feedback to work completed at home although in some cases, this might happen. Homework might instead be acknowledged in the lesson, self-marked, peer-marked or discussed as part of a lesson activity.

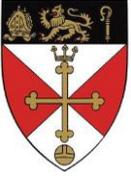
6. Completion of Homework

Homework and resources needed will be clearly set on Class Charts. Parent and child can access their child's account at home as parental encouragement and support in completing homework is valued.

Support will be given to students who are learning how to complete homework. This will include teaching students the study skills required for independent work, offering the student homework hubs and SEND support. Where a student struggles to complete homework because of practical problems e.g. lack of an appropriate place or appropriate atmosphere, the school will endeavour to provide the student with support to overcome these difficulties.

Staff will refer students to 'homework club' if homework is not completed in KS3, where support can be provided. At KS4 and KS5, a sanction may be issued for a lack of complete work.





Malmesbury School

7. **Students with Special Educational Needs**

Where necessary, homework will be adapted to meet the special educational needs of individual students and reference will be made to EHCP documentation. Students who encounter particular difficulties with homework may be considered for exemption from homework tasks. This would be discussed with parents through learning support review meetings and included in the students SEND profile.

8. **Review**

This approach will be reviewed again in 2027.

