



## Home Learning/ Curriculum Support Activity (CSA) Policy

Date approved: 17 January 2024  
 Review cycle/date: Every 2 years  
 Party responsible: Student Committee  
 Linked policies: Curriculum Policy

### Home Learning/ CSA

Home learning/ CSA is a fundamental life skill. It provides experiences of working independently, where students plan their own time and are self-reliant and self-disciplined. It also equips them for exam preparation, further and higher education and the world of work.

There are four main aspects of home learning/CSA:

- Consolidation of class-work (e.g. complete maths questions based on what was learnt in class)
- Preparation for future learning (e.g. researching a subject, watching TED Talks)
- Revision of skills and previously taught knowledge (e.g. including three linguistic devices in the opening paragraph of a letter)
- Independent project (e.g. create an app.)

Students in Year 7 and Year 8 will be set Curriculum Support Activities (CSA) tasks every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. There is a clear focus on the core subjects and on key knowledge understanding and skills.

Monday to Thursday we take a 20 20 20 approach as below:

Year 7 & 8				
The 20 20 20 Approach				
60 mins a night				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reading – 20 mins	Reading – 20 mins	Reading – 20 mins	Self Study Projects	Free Friday
Physics – 20 mins	Chemistry – 20 mins	Biology – 20 mins	Crew Presentations	
Maths – 20 mins	Maths – 20 mins	Maths – 20 mins	Personal Development Digital Portfolios	

			Ambition Subject Challenge Work	
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## YEAR 9

Year 9 The 20 20 20 Approach 60 mins a night				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reading – 20 mins Physics – 20 mins Maths – 20 mins	Reading – 20 mins Chemistry – 20 mins Maths – 20 mins	Reading – 20 mins Biology – 20 mins Maths – 20 mins	Humanities: Geography History PRE	Free Friday Until Easter options projects

## YEAR 10 and YEAR 11

Year 10 & 11 30-50 mins per subject 60-100 mins a night				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Maths Physics	English Lit English Lang	Chemistry Biology	Option 1 Option 2	Option 3 Option 4

Many tasks will be short and designed to consolidate learning and embed key skills and knowledge. Everyone works at a different pace. We just ask that students do their best.

We will ensure that all home learning/curriculum support activities are posted on the relevant TEAMS platforms, which will include supporting material and advice for students. We also encourage parents to be actively involved with CSA. However, it is not the parents' work. Instead parents should draw answers from their son/daughter by using open questioning. If you both don't know – you can learn together! There are also many resources on the internet and over time we will build a bank of resources on our virtual learning environment.

## Rationale

Home learning at The Swanage School is relevant, meaningful and integrated into the learning and progress of all students. These tasks are not an 'extra' but an integral part of the students' learning

journey; we have pre-planned many tasks, across the key stages, in response to the knowledge and skill demands of the GCSEs. You may well hear home learning being described as curriculum support activities or CSAs.

The conscientious completion of home learning/curriculum support activities on a regular basis throughout years 7–11 gradually builds up student confidence and competence in tackling examination/course requirements and achieving individual potential.

## Purpose

- To provide a clear learning entitlement for all students that develops a thirst for learning
- To enhance home-school partnership
- To build increasing student involvement in their own study programme beyond the classroom
- To develop research skills and an understanding of the appropriateness of a variety of sources
- To develop skills of time management and organisation
- To build and develop academic commitment
- To provide the opportunity to use, consolidate, and revise the skills and knowledge content of school work
- To develop the independent learner
- To develop student confidence, motivation and self-awareness

## Guidelines

- At the start of each school year, all parents receive a parent information pack which explains the nature and approach of home learning at The Swanage School
- Members of staff have the responsibility of implementing the school's home learning policy and of emphasising to their students the important part curriculum support activities play in their overall progress
- Staff will be expected to ensure that all students clearly understand the task set and the date/time by which it is due for submission. Students will note the home learning in their planner and are expected to check their TEAMS platforms every day
- A wide variety of home learning curriculum support activities can be expected depending on the nature of the subject and the type of work and content being covered
- The amount of work set will vary according to the age and ability of the student and the nature of the subject.
- In subjects which are predominantly practical in nature, and which often rely on specialist facilities and resources, activities will be set as appropriate to the project work/assignments in which the student is involved
- The setting of curriculum support activities will be monitored regularly
- The school will provide space and facilities to enable students to do home learning at the school where it is difficult to study at home

## Conclusion

Our home learning policy/curriculum support reinforces the central principle of classroom learning in the progress of each student towards achieving their full potential, alongside the development of the independent learner. The work ethos and a passion for learning are at its core.

## Monitoring, evaluation and review

The effectiveness of the Home Learning Policy will be monitored, evaluated and reviewed both day to day and more strategically:

1. On-going monitoring:
  - Sampling students' planners
  - Monitoring work set on TEAMS
  - Sampling of students' work
  - Informal feedback from students
  - Discussions between members of staff
  - Informal feedback from parents
  - Student progress in lessons
  
2. Strategic monitoring and evaluation:
  - Audit of student home learning to be carried out half termly
  - Analysis of student summative assessment data, termly
  - Written and oral feedback from students, annually
  - Review of The School and Departmental Development Plans, annually

The Governing Body will review the Home Learning Policy every two years and assess its implementation and effectiveness.