

Homework at Cliff Park Ormiston Academy



THRIVE

CREATE

DISCOVER

ACHIEVE

What do we mean by Homework?

The academy is committed to setting regular homework that students will need to complete outside of the classroom. Homework tasks will be set in order to either consolidate knowledge previously taught or prepare students for future learning.

Why do homework?

- Extensive research carried out by the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has found that homework has a high, positive impact on secondary pupils
- Tasks linked to classwork are most effective
- The purpose needs to be clear
- It will increase specific areas or knowledge
- It will increase skills/literacy/numerical/fluency in areas/topics

Time spent on homework

This will differ at different points during the school year. However, the guidance suggests that:

- KS3 – 30 minutes per piece
- KS4 – 45 minutes to an hour per piece

The frequency of homework can be found later in this guide.

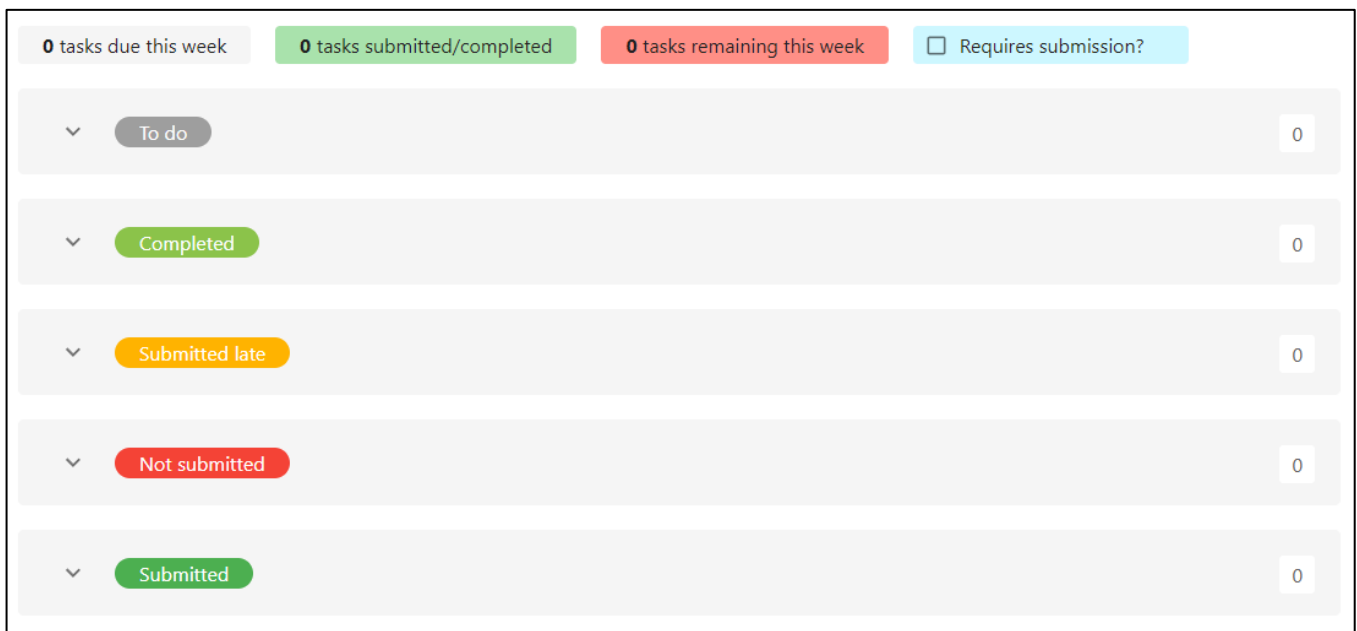
How we set homework at Cliff Park

At Cliff Park Ormiston Academy, all homework is set through Class Charts. This is an online platform that all students and parents are able to access through its app.

The app can be downloaded for free from the Apple Store and Google Play.

Students will receive an activation code from their Form Tutors. Once they have this, they will be able to log onto the app and view their timetable, explore attendance and behaviour data and check their homework.

Homework tasks will be displayed in the following way:



Please contact the front office if you require your parent code for Class Charts.

Homework expectations: STUDENTS

What will you get?

- Tasks support and extend learning at home
- A table showing how often you will be set homework in each subject
- All tasks will be set on Class Charts but may refer to other online platforms such as GCSE Pod, MyMaths or SENECA.
- Plenty of time to do a task – you will have approximately a week to do a task
- Support and guidance on the task from your teachers with any materials you need with the task to help you complete it
- A variety of tasks where and when possible
- Feedback from teachers to help you improve further

What are you expected to do as a student?

- Complete tasks set
- Stick to deadlines - i.e. hand it in on the day stated
- Check Class Charts for tasks and guidance
- Ask teachers for help if you are not sure or need clarification
- Write in full sentences and paragraphs
- Write the date, title and underline them all
- Use subject specific terminology
- Try your best with all tasks set
- Attend Homework Club or Study Support Sessions if you want additional help

Homework has an impact by enabling pupils to undertake independent learning to practice and consolidate skills, conduct in-depth inquiry, prepare for lessons or revise for exams.

Education Endowment Foundation

Homework expectations: TEACHERS

What is expected of your teachers?

- Set tasks to support and extend learning at home in line with the published schedule
- Set tasks with a HAND IN date
- Set all tasks on Class Charts
- Mark tasks as complete on Class Charts. This allows your teachers, as well as Heads of Faculty / Subject Leaders, to check who is and isn't completing work and chase them up
- Set tasks giving a week to complete the task
- Provide support and extension within the tasks set
- Ensure tasks have relevant materials, linking them to Class Charts if required
- Set a variety of tasks where and when possible
- Where homework is set online, provide feedback via the Class Charts app
- Online tasks (such as GCSEPod and SENECA) include self-marking questions which will provide students and you with good feedback and documents to support your further planning and adaptations of lessons as to the misconceptions etc.
- Refer issues regarding a lack of completion to Heads of Department/discuss with Form tutor/pastoral team.
- Log incomplete homework on Class Charts.
- Refer students to Homework Club or Study Support Sessions if they are persistently not completing homework
- Ensure students are praised through the use of Golden Tickets

Homework expectations: PARENTS

How can you support?

- Be familiar with Class Charts
- Log on and check Class Charts regularly
- Be familiar with how often your child/children should be receiving homework in each subject
- Encourage them to check what tasks are set
- Discuss what needs to be done – but you don't have to do it for them!
- Have a quiet place for them to study or complete tasks away from distractions
- Encourage them to take short breaks if the task is a longer one
- If they are struggling encourage them to ask the teacher prior to the deadline
- Check that tasks are completed and submitted
- Encourage students to use Homework Club or Study Support Sessions if you feel they need extra support or a more structured approach
- Ask about homework at Parents' Evenings

Guide to working at home

FAQ

‘What is my role as a parent/carer with regards to homework?’

Encouragement is a major role. Ensure that your child manages and copes with the workload. Sit with them. Talk to them about the tasks. If youngsters verbalise their learning they are more likely to retain the knowledge.

‘I’m busy and don’t have time to help. What can I do?’

It’s not absolutely essential that you sit with them and work alongside them, but showing an interest is imperative. Ask them what tasks they’re undertaking tonight and sound enthusiastic!

‘I can’t help because education has changed since I was at school. I don’t know what my child is taught.’

You can support by appearing interested in school: reading the school newsletter; attending parents’ evenings. Generally, show an interest in school. Check the school website.

‘I don’t know enough about a specific topic to help my child. How can I help?’

Youngsters thrive on rewards and encouragement. Maybe look at some information together. Help collect information. Supporting is an excellent way of helping.

‘It’s noisy and there’s no space at home’

We offer Homework Club and Study Support Sessions which are fully supervised and supported by our experienced Teaching Assistants who can offer additional advice and support if required. This runs after school in IT5 between 3:00 -4:00pm.

‘I need help getting my Class Charts login or accessing the website’

Students can ask their Form Tutor to help them with getting student and parent codes for ‘Class Charts’

The Class Charts app can be downloaded from the Apple or Google Play store by searching for ‘Class Charts’.

Top tips for successful homework completion

Discuss homework: Give your child a chance to talk about their school work if they want to. Even if you know nothing about a particular subject, you can still help just by talking and listening and helping them to find their own answers.

Encourage: Help your child take responsibility for organising and doing their homework and never forget to praise them for their hard work or their improved concentration, handwriting or presentation.

Use available tools: Log into Class Charts and look at the tasks and discuss them with your child.

Help your child keep to a routine: Some children prefer to do homework straight after school, whereas others prefer to 'unwind' first, or have their meal then do homework later. Let your child decide – but ensure they stick to it.

Establish a study zone: It's very important to try to create a suitable place where your child can do their homework, ideally somewhere with a clear work surface, good lighting and no interruptions. Try to teach younger brothers and sisters not to interrupt when homework is being done.

Allow for differences: Children are all different and have different learning styles. Some prefer to study alone, whereas others like to study with friends or family. It's worth remembering that some children like to work with music on to keep them company too.

Use resources: If there isn't suitable space in your home for working, try a local library or a homework club if your child's school offers one. In our Learning Resource Centre, children can use computers to get on the internet if you don't have access at home. The centre is open at breaks and lunch times every day.

Get tech savvy: The internet can be great for looking things up and finding out more so encourage your child to become an independent learner and to go the 'extra mile' with their studies.

Offer rewards: Make homework rewarding by setting up some treats like staying up 10 minutes later, spending 10 minutes extra on the computer, or having a friend round. It can help to keep your child motivated if they need that little extra encouragement from time to time.

Homework Schedule

Homework is set in all lessons and aims to either prepare students for future learning or consolidate learning that has previously taken place.

The Homework Club runs each lunchtime and after school in IT5.

The frequency of extended learning every half term/term per subject area is expected to be as follows:

ENGLISH	Once a week
MATHS	Once a week
SCIENCE	Once per topic
SCIENCE GCSE	Once per topic for biology, chemistry and physics
HISTORY	Once a fortnight
GEOGRAPHY	Twice per topic
LANGUAGES	Once a fortnight
RE	Once a half term
GCSE RE	Once a fortnight
PE	Extra curricular clubs, daily
COMPUTING	Once a half term
MUSIC	Once a half term
DRAMA	Once a half term
ROTATION SUBJECTS	Once a rotation topic
KS4 OPTION SUBJECTS	Once a fortnight



Kennedy Avenue
Gorleston-on-Sea
Great Yarmouth
Norfolk NR31 6TA

Tel: 01493 661504

Email: office@cliffparkoa.co.uk

Principal: Mr H French

Visit our website to find out further information.

Please scan the QR code with your phone/tablet
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