

Homework principles/policy

What does the research suggest?

EEF states effective homework is:

- Planned and focused (within the curriculum sequence)
- Routinely set
- Not used as a punishment or penalty
- Has specific and timely feedback
- Purpose clearly communicated to the students

The impact of homework can be five months' additional progress, depending on the quality (not the quantity) of the homework. How homework is set is also very important.

KES Principles for homework

- All homework set at KES must be for the purpose of either **retrieval or practice** and should **not be new learning**. Must be an integral part of the curriculum (planned into the curriculum sequence). No other homework should be set. Especially not 'busy work'.
- **Flipped learning** can be used at **KS5 only**. This needs to be carefully managed, as flipped learning can increase gaps, as if students do not complete the homework, they may then struggle to access the following lesson.
- Homework tasks will be structured in a manner where the student does **not** require an expert to be present in the room to complete successfully. This is to ensure our most disadvantaged can access the work. Optional authentic challenge activities can be added to homework for the more able (if departments wish). This may involve extended research based activities
- High quality feedback will be provided on all homework. This may be whole class, immediate automated individual feedback etc (not necessarily written detailed feedback).

Length of homework

- At KS3, each homework task set **must not** take the students **more than 20 minutes**. Staff to be aware SEN students may take longer, but students are encouraged to bring in the work they have managed to do in 20 minutes.
- At KS4, each homework task set must not take the students **more than 30 minutes**. SEN – same as above.
- At KS5, students are expected to study 5 hours independently per subject across the week.

Setting of homework

- All homework should be clearly displayed on EduLink, with clear instructions and labelling.
- There must be no overnight deadlines. E.g. Work set on the Monday, to be collected in on the Tuesday.
- Homework must not be set for over the holidays.
- Homework must not be set on the Friday for a Monday deadline.
- Homework must be handed out at the **start of a lesson** with the **purpose clearly explained**.