



## Homework Policy

**J**esus Christ is our family role model

**O**pening our hearts and minds to dream the impossible and achieve beyond our wildest imagination

**E**verybody is valued and respected

**Y**oung and old will journey together to build God's Kingdom.

**S**triving for academic excellence and celebrating success in all we do

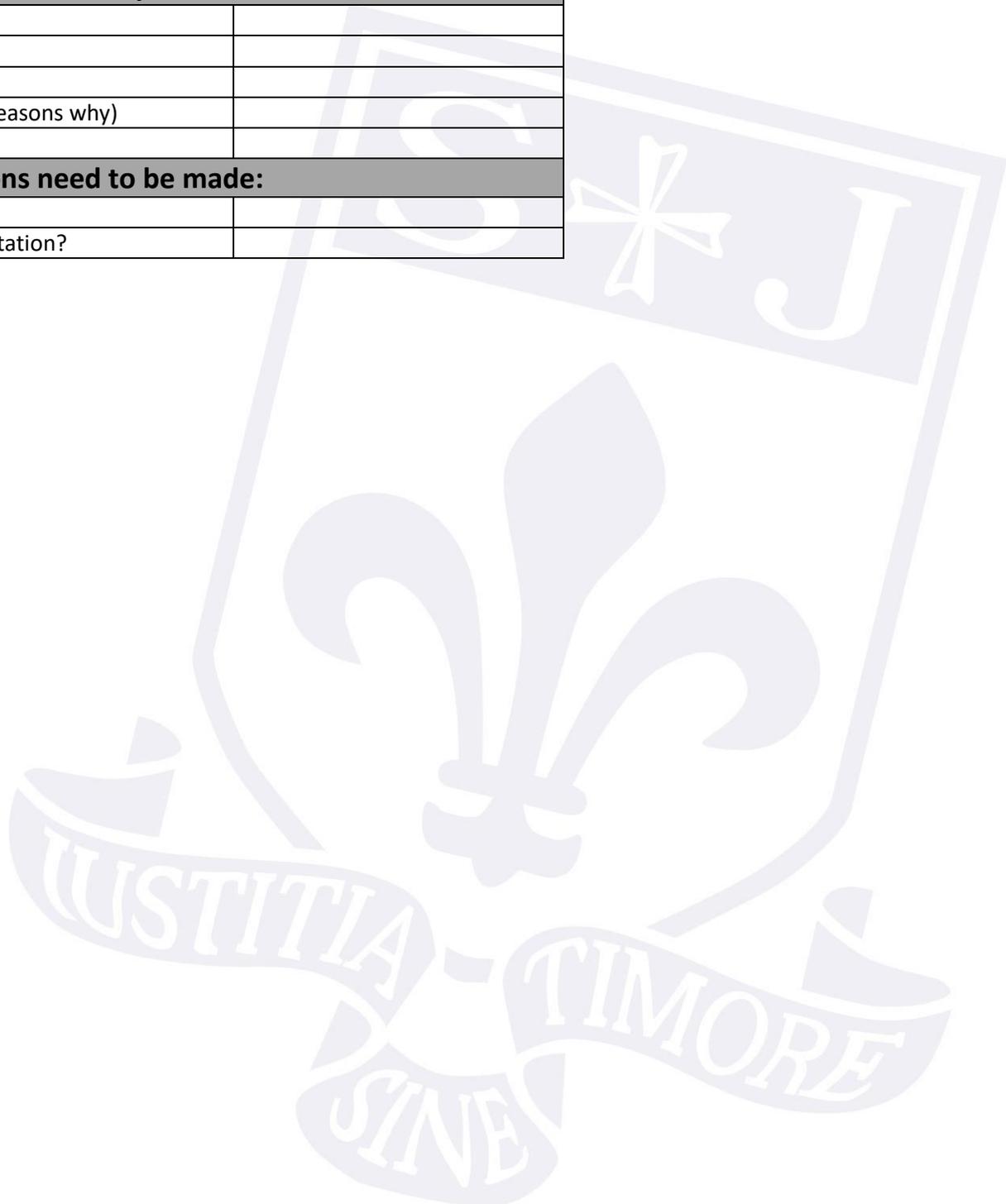
**Approved by Governors:**

**Date for Review: Autumn 19**

## Version Control

Current Version	Previous Version	Summary of Changes Made

<b>Policy Impact Statement</b>	
<b>Policy:</b>	
<b>This Policy has been implemented:</b>	
Fully	
Partially	
Occasionally	
Not at all (give reasons why)	
<b>What revisions need to be made:</b>	
To the Policy?	
To its implementation?	



## **Rationale:**

Following from our Mission Statement we at St Joseph's believe that homework is a means of developing the potential of our pupils by increasing their independence as well as their confidence as a learner. It helps to reinforce the partnership between home and school. It provides an opportunity for each pupil to consolidate their classroom based studies, to extend their understanding, and, in order to promote a zest for learning and satisfy their natural thirst for knowledge, to signpost them to bespoke resources to support this end.

## **Purposes of Homework**

- To strengthen the continuity of learning between lessons.
- To provide opportunities for pupils to practise what they learn in lessons.
- To enrich pupils' learning outside the classroom environment.
- To enable pupils to take more responsibility for their own learning.
- To enhance pupils' development of study skills and independence.
- To enable pupils to develop a systematic approach to task and time management.
- To enhance the involvement of parents/carers in their child's learning.
- To enable pupils to prepare for Controlled Assessments in any vocational qualifications.
- To prepare pupils for the requirements of GCSE examinations and contribute to GCSE progress.

## **Principles of Homework**

- Homework is a meaningful and appropriate activity for the pupil in question.
- The amount and nature of homework is balanced and reasonable according to each pupil's needs. The Department for Education guidelines state Year 9 - 45-90 minutes per night; Year 10 & 11 1-3 hours per night – up to 6 hours at the weekend. For our pupils the number of subjects completed per night should be no more than 2-3 subjects. In order to support pupils to manage their time appropriately pupils should be given a minimum of 2 nights' notice of any homework to be completed.
- Homework should be proportionate to the teaching time and set regularly ie between one and four pieces a fortnight.
- The length of time to complete homework will vary according to the purpose of the piece of work.
- There will be a clear purpose to the task set which maybe: to allow for practice /mastery, to extend learning, to allow for independent study of a topic covered in class.
- Pupils' homework will be acknowledged. Where appropriate pupils will be given feedback on their homework this feedback will focus on; reinforcing good practice, clarifying any misconceptions, highlighting next progression steps. Feedback may take the form of individual feedback in books, whole class feedback, peer feedback.
- Where 'revision' is set as homework this will be scaffolded and clearly explained with specific measurable activities. Pupils will not be set additional homework beyond revision during exam periods.
- Where extended projects are set, the nature of the work expected for each homework should be made explicit. The pupils should themselves be involved in this by being encouraged to produce forward plans. Class teachers should periodically check and support this homework to support pupils to break it down into manageable steps.

- The best place to do homework is at home and parents are asked to co-operate in providing an environment which is conducive to study for their child. Should this not be possible then parents are requested to speak to the child's Head of Year.
- Pupils are also encouraged to make use of revision books, websites and private reading in addition to set work where possible or if they are unclear as to the work set.

### **Recording and reporting Homework**

- The Student Planner acts as the means of recording homework by the pupils and should be used in a consistent way. Teachers should build time into lessons for students to record their homeworks.
- The Planner is the source for monitoring homework by both tutors and parents on a regular basis and is signed on a weekly basis by both. Homework will also be logged on E-Praise and will serve as a source of information and resources for both parents and their children.
- Pupils should be encouraged to take an active involvement and responsibility, for their own homework. This includes recording the homework and the meeting of deadlines.
- Heads of Year and associated Pastoral Teams will monitor levels of homework, homework completion and adequate use of the student Planner.
- Where there are any questions regarding homework parents are requested to contact the Head of Department for the subject in the first instance.

### **Non – Completion of Homework**

- If homework has not been completed, in the first instance students will be issued a C3 detention and will be requested to stay to complete as much of the homework as possible.
- If the student fails to turn up to a homework catch up pupils will be placed on the next step of the school sanctions ladder and an after school detention will be issued.
- The HOY will identify students who regularly fail to hand in homework and will work on solutions to this issue. This intervention may depend on the circumstances surrounding the non-completion of homework and will include some of the following; a telephone call home, homework report, in-school access to areas to help complete homework, further detentions for missing work, extra support from their form tutor / class teachers to help understand the homework and fill in the Planner, support from a class buddy.

### **Quality Assurance of Homework**

- Class teachers will regularly monitor pupils' homework and inform parents / HOD/ HOY where there are concerns.
- HOD will monitor the quality and quantity of homework set in the department to check that it is proportionate and purposeful.
- SLT line-managers for each department will monitor homework at least 3 times a year.
- Parents are asked to support their child to become increasingly independent with their homework completion.

### **Examples of Homework**

- Exam skills – past exam questions on a recent topic.
- Practice of skills such as a music piece or a presentation.
- Complete exercises on a specific learning point (maths questions, cloze text)

- Reading comprehensions
- Flipped learning – pre-prepare for a topic by reading up on it beforehand.
- Revision that is structured and specific (mindmaps / gap fills)
- Online practice (Mathswatch / ActiveLearn)
- Research into a topic

### **Conclusion**

Homework at St. Joseph's is recognised as an integral part of school life. It assists in the development of serious attitudes to study on the part of the pupils, acts as a valuable supplement to school-based experience and seeks the active support of parents.

