

## Mission Statement

To value, to respect, to promote optimum learning

## Vision of the Trust

To provide outstanding education and support for young people with special educational needs.



# Homework Policy

<b>Plan reviewed and adopted</b>	<b>December 2016</b>
<b>Version</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>Review frequency</b>	<b>2 years</b>
<b>Date of next review</b>	<b>December 2018</b>
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	<b>Sharon Common</b>

Homework is not set for all students as a matter of course as it is recognised that most would need considerable support from a family member to undertake tasks at home. Parents are partners in the drawing up of EHCP targets and meet with class teachers each term to review these. Teachers also provide parents/carers with information about the modules of work being studied in each subject over the term. This gives the opportunity for parents to be involved in the child's learning though undertaking supportive work, visits or research, if they judge this to be appropriate to their child. Homework enables students to practise and consolidate skills, broadening the learning context and provide enrichment and extension. It also gives them an opportunity to take responsibility for their own learning, to become independent learners and to develop perseverance.

Homework activities linked to the curriculum topic being studied will be published on the academy website and regularly updated.

Teachers also make every effort to work closely with parents in the development of self-help and independence skills and in the management of behaviour where consistency between home and school is especially important.

### **Students with Severe and Complex Learning Needs**

All parents are encouraged to engage in practical life related learning with their children to develop communicative and cognitive skills and other curriculum related skills. Activities may be sent home to share from time to time or families may be requested to support their child's learning by sending in objects or photographs from home in connection with a specific topic. Teachers are always willing to give advice on ways of extending learning at home and will send specific materials if requested. The development of communication skills is a priority for all students. For students using specific programmes such as PECS, parents may be asked to extend this technique into the home environment. Speech and Language reports will be shared as routine but activities will also be shared with the home if requested.

### **Students with less complex needs**

Students may be given reading books/flash cards to take home to share with their families. Reading logs are used for families to provide feedback.

In response to parental willingness to support their child in doing more formal homework, class teachers will set homework each week in the form of spellings, reading or tasks related to the topic being studied. Where possible, more than one night will be given to complete the homework to give families some flexibility. We would not wish to put any pressure on parents to ask for homework. The majority of our students need a lot of support to complete their

work, so it does place an extra demand on the parents. It is also understood that homework is not appropriate for all students or in all family situations.

The following are examples of homework activities that may be set: -

- Reading/researching items related to a lesson
- Practice of self-help/life skills
- Finding information
- Curriculum worksheets
- Cut and paste and sequencing tasks
- Tasks related to Accredited Schemes (KS4 and sixth form students)

Parents are encouraged to discuss any issues related to homework via the Home School book, at the Annual Review/ECHP meetings, parents' evening etc. or by contacting the class teacher. We understand that sometimes mixing home and school can cause anxieties and stress for some students and therefore we will not insist all homework is completed.

### **Pupils who are absent from school**

Teachers will provide homework/activities/resources as appropriate when pupils are absent from school in consultation with families and medical staff involved.