



Jordanhill School



Homework in S2

Homework

This short guide is designed to help you understand the homework expectations of S2 pupils in Jordanhill School.

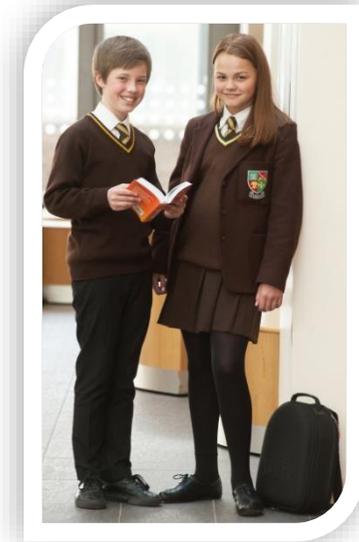
Homework is an essential element of a pupil's overall learning experience. It is intended that homework will permit pupils to

- ✓ Consolidate or enrich work done in class
- ✓ Prepare for future class work
- ✓ Take responsibility for their own learning
- ✓ Revise for assessment
- ✓ Develop habits of independent study

Homework encompasses a wide range of activities: written exercises, reading, research projects and revision. All homework is recorded in the pupil's planner.

Homework provides parents with an opportunity to take an active interest in their child's education. Parents can complement the activities in the classroom by encouraging, listening to and talking with their child.

The satisfactory completion of regular homework is a requirement of all pupils. Please check your child's homework planner regularly.



August 2011		Date	Done
15	Monday		
16	Tuesday		
17	Wednesday		

Homework Advice

The most successful students are those who consolidate their learning regularly. Applying this to S2 would suggest that pupils should have homework on every school day where pupils review the lessons they had that day and think about what they have learned. Sometimes this will take fifteen minutes, other times it will take much longer, especially if the pupil has not fully understood what was being learned. “Cramming” for tests and exams by only looking over classwork before a test might appear to work for some pupils but it only encourages superficial learning and can make learning a stressful experience. Help your son/daughter get into good habits by encouraging them to look over the work they did in class that day. Have they understood the classwork? If not, encourage them to use textbooks, friends, parents and the internet to help. It is good for pupils to get into the habit of trying to work things out for themselves, using available resources, rather than relying on the teacher to give them the answer. That said, pupils should not hesitate to ask for help if they have tried hard to work something out but are still not sure.

There will be times when pupils will have to plan their week nights/weekends as they learn to balance the competing demands of homework, family, friends and other activities. However, homework should not dominate family life. Parents should speak to their child’s Head of House if they feel that their child is spending far too much time on homework tasks.

Throughout their time in secondary school, pupils will be asked to submit homework for self, peer or teacher marking. We have high expectations of all our pupils and we want all pupils to achieve their potential. Pupils should take their time and show pride in their homework. If a teacher asks a pupil to re-submit a piece of homework, it is probably because the teacher knows that the pupil can do much better. Before you sign your child’s homework planner, please have a look at the homework they are submitting and check that it represents their best work.

Planning for homework in S2

The following pages illustrate the typical homework that S2 pupils can expect from their subjects. Of course, teachers will react to their pupils’ needs and will not always follow a prescriptive pattern of homework. Sometimes they will issue additional homework, at other times they will not issue a particular piece of homework due to a clash with another school event or if they feel that the pupils could learn better by an alternative method. As a general rule a maximum of 1-1½ hr per night over 5 nights should be enough time to tackle S2 homework. This will, of course, vary from week to week depending on the nature of the classwork being studied. It is also worth noting that ICT tasks can be tackled in school using the computers available in the school.

S2 Subject	Routine homework examples	How often is routine hw issued and how long should it take to complete?	Projects	Comments/Advice for pupils
Art	Analytical, observational drawing. Design problem solving - design ideas. Research into Artists and Designers. Written, critical work on Art and Design.	About once per fortnight At least 1 hour	Seafood Menu Design Project (1 hour-Feb) Collect Sea life imagery. Detailed line drawing of a fish. Research into Typography – collecting interesting lettering examples. Tonal study on sea-life theme. Colour pencil drawing of Menu idea. Landscape (Jan/Feb- 1 hour) Detailed drawing of a view from a window at home. Photographs of surrounding area. Tonal study of a tree. Written analysis of a landscape painting.	The success of the class projects relies on the quality of the work done at home, as much of this work is used for investigation in the Design and Expressive class work. If pupils need advice or help with homework, or if they need to access certain materials, they can come to the Art department at lunch break.
BECSIT	A homework book with short response theory-type questions is issued.	About once per month Up to 20 minutes		Homework focuses on the theory aspect of the course. Pupils learn to recognise the theoretical elements of the course and appreciate that theory is assessed in equal part to practical.
Drama	Drama diary entry including description of drama activity and general comment.	About once per week 5mins		Pupils should make sure diary is updated when appropriate. There will be opportunities in class time to check diary entries are up to date and any additional material added.
English	Close Reading Spelling and Vocabulary Completing Writing- drafting/self-editing and redrafting Personal Reading-pupils are required to read 1 book per month.	About once per week 20-40minutes	Pupils have regular Close Reading work and are required to read from a range of quality journalism at home. Pupils are also required to work collaboratively and independently when developing their class newspaper.	Pupils should complete all assigned homework and stay on top of the minimum requirement of one book per month.

<p>French</p>	<p>1. Learning vocabulary and grammar: every night 8-10 words or structures (4 times a week) unless in term 1, opted to do Spanish or mandarin.</p> <p>2. Writing sentences to apply new vocabulary and Grammar (couple of times a week) Writing sentences to apply new vocabulary</p> <p>3. Formal reading task at the end of each unit.</p>	<p>Every lesson 20-40 minutes per week</p> <p>Vocabulary test approx. once every 2/3 weeks</p>		<p>Pupils should learn the vocabulary on a regular basis; they should not wait to the vocabulary test to start memorising.</p> <p>Use cue cards for visual learners: one side French/one side English.</p>
<p>Geography</p>	<p>Completing work not finished during class time Reading over class notes Researching current events linked to topic being studied</p>	<p>Up to 20mins per week</p>	<p>Earth Forces project Pupils are given 4 weeks to complete this task. Pupils must research a case study of a volcanic eruption or earthquake and write a report. Oct/Nov</p> <p>WaterAid report Pupils green pen edit a report that they write in class and then word process, including maps and diagrams - 2 weeks to complete. March</p>	<p>Regular revision is essential for success. Pupils should start preparing for the S2 Exam in early December.</p> <p>Pupils are always given a detailed summary of the homework task and this is also posted on O365. O365 gives deadlines too so parents can check if planner is not completed properly</p>
<p>History</p>	<p>problem-solving questions, skills development, research, note taking, higher order thinking skills, group collaboration.</p>	<p>About once per week 20-40 minutes</p>	<p>Changing Minds, Changing Times: Investigation into the life of slaves on plantations leading to a 2-3 page report. August/September 2 hours max.</p> <p>JFK Internet Research - Evaluate JFK's role in improving civil rights. September/October, Group presentations. (approx.) 1-2 weeks. 2 hours max.</p> <p>JFK/LBJ Extended Response - Evaluate the significance of these two historical figures to the civil rights movement. October. 1-2 weeks. 1 hour max</p> <p>Civil Rights Campaign Challenge. find the best way of campaigning to improve civil rights. January. 1-2 weeks. 1-2 hours max.</p> <p>Who Will Win the First World War? Report analysing the strengths and weakness of the major powers prior to the 1WW. Week beginning 10th Feb. 1-2 weeks. 1-2 hours.</p>	<p>All HW task are supported by class time and teacher support.</p> <p>Please start HW early so that the class teacher can give additional support if required.</p>

			<p>Question Time Debate: Whole class challenge on the impact of the 1WW on Scotland and Britain. February/March 1-2weeks. 2 hours max.</p> <p>Please note that the dates shown are not fixed and will be altered to respond to pupil needs.</p>	
Home Economics	<p>Homework is restricted to additional chosen skills (e.g. sewing pupil chooses to do at home)</p> <p>revision tasks for assessment towards the end of each unit.</p>	<p>Infrequently, some additional research carried out for S2 food issues project and Fashion and Textiles.</p>	<p>Contemporary Foods Issues: 2 hours max, additional research and preparation for presentation. May be done in department at lunch time to work together in their assigned groups. End of Oct - early Nov</p>	
Maths	<p>Pupils usually have daily homework which is no more than 20 minutes long. This may be from a textbook or research for a new topic.</p> <p>Pupils also receive a formal end of topic homework and are given approximately 1 week to complete this.</p>	<p>Daily Homework: Up to 20 minutes per day</p> <p>Formal Homework: Up to 30 minutes</p>		<p>Always read over each day's learning and use revision packs from O365 to practice prior learning.</p> <p>Ask your teacher for help in advance of the submission date if you are stuck with your formal homework.</p> <p>If you are unable to complete daily or formal homework a note in your planner or jotter is required from a parent.</p>
Music	<p>Instrumental practice. Revision of listening concepts. Theory exercises.</p>	<p>10 – 20 minutes. Aim for 5 practice sessions per week. At various times throughout the session.</p>		<p>For instrumental practice, it has to be regular and consistent. Break down pieces into smaller sections. SLOW practice does work.</p>
PE	<p>Research, End of activity tasks</p>	<p>About one per activity Up to 20 minutes</p>		<p>Read questions / tasks carefully. Complete all tasks. Ensure homework is checked and signed by a parent. Hand it in by the specified date.</p>

RME	Research, personal reflection, art and craft activities, note taking	About once per week Up to 20 minutes	On-going portfolio work for pupils choosing to work towards the SQA Award in Religious Beliefs or developing their CfE H & W skills. Most of this work will take place in class time.	Please try to keep up-to-date with news and current affairs. This knowledge can help support discussion and debate about the role and impact of religions.
Science	Completion and review of class notes after every science lesson as well as completion of knowledge, application and numeracy data questions based on the current topic.	Up to 3 times per week 20-40mins per week	Opportunities for presentation work based on some of the S2 topics. Investigation write-up activities and redrafts following class practical and teacher feedback.	Pupils should review their notes after every lesson. Pupils are encouraged to read widely so that they begin to appreciate the value of science in everyday life. The BBC news website (science) is good for encouraging an interest in topical science.
Design & Technology	Pupils work on the preparation of folio items for both Graphic Communication items and Design and Manufacture. Often these exercises are extensions of work outlined in class and brought up to 'folio standard' by spending additional time on these exercises at home.	About once per week 40-60 mins	Manual graphics exercises Oct/Nov or Dec/Jan. 1 hour per week over six weeks. Pupils engage in 'skill building' tasks. These need finished at home. Product Evaluation Task. Nov or January 1 hour per week over 4 weeks Pupils introduced to design nomenclature. Pupils work in groups to evaluate a small range of products. Additional time required to prepare PPT and class talk to demonstrate their understanding of key concepts.	Manage time effectively. Take homework tasks seriously. Importance of meeting deadlines. Value of peer assessment. Need to build and refine skills through continual practice at home.