



## Homework in S3

### Homework

This guide is designed to help you understand the homework expectations of S3 pupils in Jordanhill School.

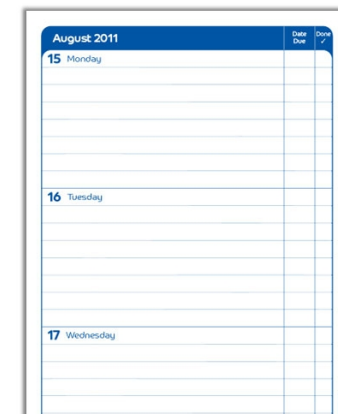
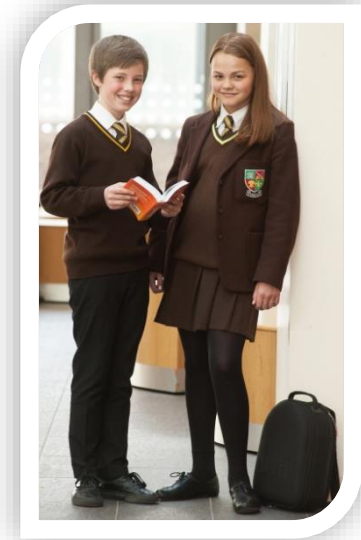
Homework is an essential element of a pupil's overall learning experience. It is intended that homework will permit pupils to

- ✓ 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.





## Homework Advice

The most successful students are those who consolidate their learning regularly. Applying this to S3 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 S3

The following pages illustrate the typical homework that S3 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, pupils should expect between 5 to 10 hours of homework/revision per week. Pupils should get into the habit of spreading this demand over the week e.g. 1½ -2 hours per evening spread over 5 days. 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.

<b>S3 Subject</b>	<b>Routine homework examples</b>	<b>How often is routine hw issued and how long should it take to complete?</b>	<b>Projects</b>	<b>Comments/Advice for pupils</b>
<b>Admin &amp; IT</b>	A combination of research and practical tasks. Note that the N5 Admin & IT course now contains only a 10% theory element and there is no final theory exam.	About twice per week. 10 minutes each.		Homework is issued to reinforce the theory element of the course. It is rarely software specific ie. parents need not purchase or have available Microsoft Office Products. May need access to a computer for web-based research. Remember that computers are available in the school library or in IT rooms after school if required and arranged with staff.
<b>Art</b>	Analytical, observational drawing.  Design problem solving - design ideas.  Research into Artists and Designers.  Written, critical work on Art and Design.	About once per week Longer than 1 hour	<b>Product Design Unit</b> Investigation Drawing, Market Research, Investigations into design. Development Materials experiments, Development Drawings etc. Design Critical work.  <b>Expressive Still-life Unit</b> Investigation Drawing, Materials experiments, Investigations into Still-life. Development Materials experiments, Compositional Studies etc. Expressive Critical work.	Homework is most often a continuation of work being done in class and pupils should therefore be in the habit of taking folders home regularly to see a good progression. There is also a detailed, formal outline of homework in the Course Handbook given to all pupils.
<b>Biology</b>	Short answer questions on knowledge or problem solving skills from course text book Extended writing on particular themes Internet Research tasks Consolidation of class work through regular revision	About once per week 20-40mins	Occasional extended tasks like making a three dimensional model of a cell or a more involved research task.	1. Be on time 2. Presented neatly in ink 3. Be complete (raise difficulties early with class teacher) 4. Completed in homework jotter  Like most subjects, success in biology comes from pupils reviewing their classwork after every lesson and asking questions when they encounter concepts that they don't fully understand.
<b>Business Management</b>	Short questions, case studies, past paper questions	About twice per week 30 minutes total		Homework is either a continuation of work done in class or research. Pupils should pay careful attention to the correct interpretation of questions and appropriate response to command words.

<b>Chemistry</b>	Exam-style questions: multiple choice and long answer Completion/review of notes Ink Exercises Practice problems (calculations, balancing equations, mole equations)	Most lessons 20-40minutes per week		Pupils must get into the habit of reviewing their class notes after every lesson. They should highlight difficulties and speak to a member of the chemistry dept. to help them. Extended pieces of homework will be given a submission date which is negotiated with pupils taking into account their additional school commitments.
<b>Computing Science</b>	Completing short response and problem-solving theory questions. Terminology exercises. Advanced research of an upcoming topic.	About once per fortnight 20-40minutes		Homework is rarely software specific. Pupils do not need to purchase or have available any Microsoft Office products or programming software. Computer access for web-based research may be required. Homework is issued to reinforce the theory element of the course and pupils should be aware that theory is assessed equally to practical.
<b>D&amp;M</b>	This course is presented using a folio based approach.  All homework tasks contribute to the generation of folio based evidence.	1 hour per week (maintaining and completing their folio)	Carcase construction projects exploring the properties of a variety of woods.  Metal properties and processes with a practical outcome.  Plastics properties demonstrations and practical. Environmental considerations.  Small scale detailed model making employing manual and computer based evidence. This project is planned to allow pupils access to the 3D printer	Access to a Pinterest account is useful for pupils. Excellent resource for tracking visual research. Parents can contact the dept for more information.  Completion of folio tasks requires rigour, discipline and good time management. Pupils recognise the importance of meeting submission deadlines.

<b>English</b>	Spelling Vocabulary Close Reading Textual Analysis Research-for persuasive writing On-going requirement of reading one book per month Completing essays- drafting/ self-editing and redrafting. Environmental project- research, note taking and planning.	Most lessons 20-40minutes per week	Formal close reading/ textual analysis-on-going. Research for environmental project-on-going.	
<b>French</b>	- vocabulary learning (every lesson) - one exercise (reading or writing) (most lessons)	Every lesson 30-40minutes per week  Vocabulary test approx. once every 2/3 weeks	Speaking tests; one week to memorise once prepared in class. Writing assessments: one week to memorise once final draft is completed.	Pupils should learn the vocabulary on a regular basis; they should not wait until the vocabulary test to start memorising.  - writing: chunk essay on cards and learn one at a time. Highlight the verbs. - Similar with speaking but write a phonetic version of the word too. Pupils are given the option to get their speaking recorded on their phone/CD by staff/language assistant.
<b>Geography</b>	Pupils are issued with a variety of homework exercises throughout S3. The time given to complete tasks is generally 1 week.	About once per fortnight 25 - 40 minutes. Some may take longer and pupils will be given additional time to complete.	Weather assignment – March/April	Pupils are expected to read through and learn course work on a regular basis.  All homework dates and tasks are posted on O365, as are powerpoints that are used in class to help with the completion of homework. Go over powepoints and look at clips  Watch BBC weather forecasts and relevant programmes e.g. Countryfile on Sunday evenings
<b>Graphic Communication</b>	Each topic is accompanied by a set of pupil notes, which contain exercises to be completed. These reinforce the work of the class.	About once per fortnight 20-40 minutes	Pupils may be asked to carry out some research during graphic design tasks - mirroring the processes real life designers go through in their professional life.	In general terms, pupils are advised that homework is something they should consider to be central to their development. We find that the most successful pupils tend to be those who take an interest in the subject beyond the content taught in class.

<p><b>History</b></p>	<p>Problem-solving questions, skills development, higher order thinking skills, research, note taking, group collaboration</p>	<p>Most lessons 20-40 minutes per week</p>	<p><b>Highland Clearances Challenge:</b> Debate on whether the HC were justified. Individual/collaborative group task. 1 week. 1 hour. September.</p> <p><b>Mind-Map Challenge</b> on the reasons for Scottish emigration. Individual task. 1 week. 1 hour. Supported by class time. October</p> <p><b>Topic Triangles</b> - Scots experience abroad in Australia. Jan.</p> <p><b>Scots Abroad Digital Challenge.</b> Work in pairs to produce digital presentation of 2 famous Scots abroad of their own choice. 1 week. 1-2 hours. Jan Supported by class time.</p> <p><b>Dragon's Den Challenge:</b> Individual/group collaborative task to form an emigration society hoping to win a government grant for the people in their area. 1 week. 1-2 hours. Feb</p>	<p>Please write answers in full sentences. Give reasons for your answers.</p> <p>Please start homework before the due date so that the class teacher can offer support if needed.</p>
<p><b>Maths</b></p>	<p>Pupils usually have daily homework which is no more than 30 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 30 minutes</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>

<b>Music</b>	Instrumental practice  Revision/reinforcement of listening concepts  Musical theory	15 – 20 minutes at least 5 times a week on both instruments.  At end of every topic (3 in session)  Regular exercises to be completed throughout the session.	Term 1 – Jazz, Blues and Popular Music.  Term 2 – Scottish and World Music  Term 3 – Baroque Music	Pupils should use their Performing Log Book to record tasks and progress.  Pupils are all given a list of useful websites relating to the Listening concepts that they can use for revision.
<b>PE</b>	Research, End of activity tasks, Introduction to N5/Higher terminology	About one per activity <b>Up to 20 minutes</b>		Pupils are introduced to N5/H concepts.
<b>Physics</b>	Calculation Practice Ink Exercises Experiment write up/graphing Other written tasks Researching technology Writing summary notes General revision	Homework between 20-40 mins per week.  Revision between 20-40 mins per week.	Research task and presentation. Task done in class with any other work as part of normal homework. Timescales can be negotiated with class to avoid overload.	S3 pupils should expect to complete a homework at least once a week. However, they should also look over their physics notes and check they understand what they learned in class that day. Homework tasks will also be set from the homework booklets, textbook and other resources. Some internet research and presentation tasks will be issued as homework too. Students should also expect to put time aside for revision throughout this year: a thoughtfully constructed revision plan started early in the year will help significantly in the build-up to the S3 examinations. Practising questions should be a major part of the study process and will help to hone problem solving skills and enable students to apply their knowledge.
<b>RME</b>	Research, personal reflection, art and craft activities, note taking	About once per week <b>Up to 20 minutes per week</b>	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.