



# Home Learning Policy

Castlehead High School – June 2023



# Home Learning Policy

**June 2023**

## Rationale

*Home Learning is an important part of a young person's education, as it helps to reinforce classroom learning, develop study skills, and encourage responsibility and independence. By completing home learning assignments, our young people have the opportunity to practice and apply what they have learned in class, which can help them to retain information more effectively. Home learning also helps students to develop time-management skills and to take ownership of their learning, as they are responsible for completing assignments on their own.*

*Education Scotland recommends that home learning should be varied and engaging, and should provide opportunities for students to demonstrate their learning in different ways. This can help to foster a positive attitude toward learning and to encourage students to take an active role in their education. Home learning should also be inclusive and take into account the needs and abilities of all students, and should be differentiated to meet the needs of different learners.*

*In addition, Education Scotland recommends that teachers provide timely and constructive feedback on home learning assignments, which can help students to understand their strengths and areas for improvement. By using home learning feedback to inform their teaching, teachers can help to identify areas where additional support may be needed and to ensure that all students are able to achieve their full potential.*

## 1. Purpose of Home Learning

The purpose of Home learning is to:

- Reinforce classroom learning
- To Raise Attainment
- Develop study skills
- Encourage responsibility and independence
- Provide opportunities for students to practice and apply what they have learned in class
- Foster a positive attitude toward learning



## 2. Quality & Frequency of Home Learning

Research completed by **The Sutton Trust** suggests home learning can significantly progress learning. However there is evidence that the impact of home learning diminishes as the amount of time pupils spend on it increases.

At Castlehead High School we are focused on the quality of the task provided rather than the quantity of work required. Our staff will do this by:

- Using well-designed tasks that are linked to classroom learning.
- Clearly setting out the aims of homework to pupils.
- Understanding and addressing any barriers to completion, such as access to a learning device or resources.
- Explicitly teaching independent learning strategies.
- Providing high-quality feedback to improve pupil learning.
- Monitoring the impact home learning on pupil engagement, progress and attainment.

We encourage our young people to take responsibility for their learning at home beyond set tasks. We would recommend that pupils complete work at home for the following length of time:

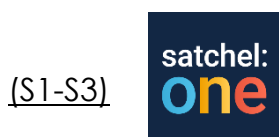
Year	Average per school day (x5)
S1	40 mins (3hrs 20mins a week)
S2	1 hour (5hrs a week)
S3	1 hour 20 mins (6hrs 40mins a week)
S4	1 hour 30 mins (7hrs 30mins a week)
S5/6	2 hours (10hrs a week)



This time can include:

- Set home learning tasks—issued by a class teacher for a specific deadline
- Retrieval activities – reviewing the work that was completed in a class that was attended that day
- Independent revision and research
- S4-6 — Using available resources to develop study skills
- Use of online resources
- Educational trips (through school, home or clubs)
- Exposure to subject content through appropriate programmes / documentaries
- Independent reading
- Participating in learning opportunities beyond the classroom: school run; supported study; extracurricular and out-of-school clubs and activities etc

### 3. Issuing of Home Learning



We are now using Satchel:One to set and track homework activities for Pupils in S1-S3. This allows parents/carers to see the details of the tasks and the deadlines which have been set. All BGE home learning tasks will be placed by teachers on Satchel:One. Parents/carers should download the app to get notifications regarding homework and other school information. Login details are issued to parents at the start of each academic session.

- Home learning will be assigned with clear instructions, due dates, and grading criteria using SatchelOne (S1-S3)
- Pupils are expected to complete home learning assignments on time and to the best of their ability.
- Pupils should seek help from teachers or peers if they do not understand the assignment.
- Parents/guardians should support and monitor their child's home learning completion.
- Home learning should be varied and engaging across subjects, and should provide opportunities for pupils to demonstrate their learning in different ways.



- Home learning should be inclusive and take into account the needs and abilities of all pupils

## Roles & Responsibilities

### **Parents & Carers**

Parents / carers should try to provide practical support for home learning by:

- Accessing information via the Satchel:One app (S1-S3)
- Establishing consistent routines for home learning completion
- Regularly discussing home learning with students
- Providing an appropriate place where study can be undertaken

In Castlehead we are building resilient learners and would encourage parents & carers to support us with motivating their child to complete all home learning to the best of their ability. Home Learning is an opportunity for our young people to identify the gaps in their learning and use their resources to complete the task. Pupils are encouraged to use their class notes, revision websites and any other available sources to complete tasks.

### **Class teachers**

- Issue, monitor and assess regularly, homework undertaken by pupils
- Set realistic timescales for completion of homework
- Ensure young people are made aware of how homework is to be assessed
- Provide opportunities for teacher, self and peer marking to take place

All staff will support homework by emphasising the important role it plays in enhancing learning. All homework tasks will be posted on Satchel:One (S1-S3).

**Curricular PTs / FHs** should review homework provision across their subject(s) in order to promote consistency. PTs / FHs will pursue persistent non-completion of homework via discussions with Pastoral Support, DHTs and parents / carers.

**Class teachers** will issue, monitor and assess regularly, homework undertaken by pupils. It is important that a realistic timescale for completion of homework is set and that pupils are made aware of how homework is to be assessed or acknowledged.

*Policy created by SLWG Home Learning:*

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*Additions included after consultation across SLT & ELT*