

Our ref: SNY/SCR

Monday 31st January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Homework Policy Update (with Homework Timetable attached)

I am writing to update you on some developments with our homework policy at Fearnhill. In consultation with the Student Council, I have been gathering details from students about how they complete their homework, what they think about the homework they are set and how the school can support them with their homework. The feedback from our Key Stage 3 and 4 students has been really useful in updating our homework policy.

The purpose and value of homework in secondary schools has been extensively researched in recent years and it is clear it plays a central part in supporting students with their learning and making additional progress in all subject areas. Last week, all students attended an assembly where they learnt about the value of homework and how to get help when they need it. It is an expectation at Fearnhill that all homework tasks are completed on time, however, we know that some students would like support in completing some of the tasks they are set. This is why we are running an after school homework club in I4 with Mrs Cottenden from 3-4pm every day.

At homework club students can get refreshments, use a PC or chromebook and sixth form homework tutors are on hand to support individuals with their work and help them complete the task and hand it in. Mrs Cottenden is also available to contact teachers if more information or help is needed. Please encourage your son or daughter to use this resource if they need a quiet and supportive place to work.

At Fearnhill, we aim to ensure that all homework tasks are purposeful and accessible, and each individual task should take no longer than 30 mins for Key Stage 3 and 45 mins for Key Stage 4. A homework timetable has been shared with the students to help them with planning their time at the end of each day. Please see attached.

If your child does not hand in their homework on time, they will now be given a short extension (normally the next day) to hand it in; this will result in a late homework mark, however this is a change to our current policy of an immediate after school detention. If students fail to hand in their completed homework on the extended date, they will now be referred to a compulsory homework club session after school where they will complete their homework and hand it in before going home. The school office will send you a message with the date of the session. Failure to attend the compulsory homework club session will result in an after school detention.

As a school, we value and recognise the importance of homework and the positive impact it can have on a student's progress and this is why we want all students to complete the homework tasks they have been set by their teachers and have access to quality support to help them achieve.

Please contact me if you have any questions about this.

Yours faithfully,

Sonja Nunneley **Assistant Headteacher**

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