



HOME LEARNING POLICY

This policy was approved by the Local Advisory Board on:	4 th March 2021
The policy owner is:	Acle Academy
This policy will be reviewed by the Local Advisory Board in: (unless earlier review is recommended by the Trust)	March 2023
Policy Version/date:	March 2021
Signed by the Chair of the Local Advisory Board:	Matthew Arrowsmith-Brown
Ratified by the Board of Trustees	
Signed by the Chair of Trustee Board	

Status: Statutory

Who was consulted: This policy was developed through consultation with staff, students, parents, carers and governors.

Equalities and Disability Discrimination Act

Acle Academy provides education for all, acknowledging that the society within which we live is enriched by diversity. We strive to ensure that the culture and ethos of the school reflects the diversity of all members of the school community, where everyone is equally valued and treats one another with respect and fairness. Students are provided with the opportunity to experience, understand and celebrate diversity (see Equality, Diversity and Cohesion Policy).

Definition

'Home learning' is any work or activity which students are expected to do outside lesson time.

The Purpose of Home learning at Acle Academy

At Acle Academy, we believe that the purpose of home learning is:

- To encourage students to develop the skills, confidence and motivation that will enable them to study on their own
- To consolidate and reinforce the skills and understanding developed at school
- To extend school learning and to provide opportunities for learning outside the classroom.
- To clarify the understanding of the lesson
- To involve parents and carers in the management of students learning and keep them informed about the work the child is doing
- To prepare students for extended writing and examinations.
- To develop Independent learning skills
- Consolidation of knowledge
- To develop self-discipline, time-management & organisational skills
- To develop research and study skills

What sorts of tasks are appropriate for home learning?

Home learning will consolidate, reinforce and extend class work. Tasks will be matched to the age, needs and ability of the students and to the schemes of work being covered in lessons. They will be varied in style, covering the full range of skills in writing, reading, speaking and listening. They will develop subject specific skills and in doing so will contribute to the students' literacy and Numeracy. Home learning will develop the study skills that are essential to the student's development as independent learners.

Home learning is simply **learning at home**.... It will be focused on learning new knowledge or consolidating understanding.

Learning activities **will be challenging** and will help develop knowledge and understanding.

Every learning task will have a **clear learning outcome** or link to a success criteria or assessment objective for the learning.

Home learning will prepare students for the independent study skills that are needed for GCSE.

Tasks will focus on developing:

- Organisation of material
- Extended writing
- Revising and learning knowledge and preparing to recall content
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Home learning is integrated into schemes of learning suited to the ability and age of students and is challenging and realistic in its expectations.

Organisational Aspects

Year group	Subject minimum expectations	Whole school	Duration of assignment
Year 7	Once every 8 learning hours	Effectively 3/ 4 assignments per week	30 minutes-1 hour
Year 8	Once every 6 learning hours	Effectively 4/5 assignments per week	30 minutes-1 hour
Year 9	Once every 6 learning hours	Effectively 4/5 assignments per week	1-2 hours
Year 10	Once every 4 learning hours	5 assignments per week	1-2 hours
Year 11	Once every 4 learning hours	5 assignments per week	1-2 hours
Year 11 Revision	Once a week		

Acle Academy recognises that all students work at a different pace. Extension work is available for able students and student’s special needs are catered for. Home learning should not be superficial nor excessive or unreasonable in its demands. Acle Academy expects each individual student to organise their own programme of study in terms of home learning.

2. Recording Home learning

Home learning is to be recorded on **ClassCharts** which is available to all staff parents/carers and students.

<https://www.classcharts.com/account/login>

This will enable students and parents/carers and staff to track who has set home learning, the quality and frequency of home learning and who is doing home learning.

Additional resources and materials may also be set on google classroom. Each subject area has its own google classroom where additional resources, revision materials and lesson plans are shared.

3. Rewards and Sanctions.

It is important that rewards and sanctions are applied appropriately and consistently.

Rewards

- House points will be given for students who have made a special effort with a particular piece of home learning.

3. Teachers will:

- Encourage students to value home learning by emphasising the purpose of any given task and assessing it according to agreed and shared criteria.
- Set home learning in accordance with whole school and department policy.
- Record home learning on classcharts and google classroom
- Follow subject specific guidance on the variety, frequency and length of tasks and ensure that they are assessing work in a way that is consistent with department and school policy.
- Choose tasks that consolidate, reinforce and/or extend class work in ways that develop study skills and independent learning strategies.
- Set home learning in accordance with the timetable and the suggested time allocation and take care to provide work appropriate to the needs, ability and potential of the students concerned.
- Ensure that home learning is integrated into schemes of work suited to the ability and age of students and that it is challenging and realistic in its expectations.
- Should ensure that home learning is not normally allowed to be started in lessons.
- Home learning should be marked together in class, peer marked or teacher marked and returned as soon as possible whilst the work is still reasonably clear in the student's mind.

4. Departments

Departments will publish a home learning policy in accordance with these guidelines. In doing so they will ensure that they address the following:

- The regularity, frequency and amount of home learning appropriate in the subject at different times during the course, covering KS3 & KS4
- The integration of home learning into schemes of work
- The range of tasks appropriate for home learning in the subject
- How feedback should be given to students about home learning with regard to school

policies on assessment and target setting.

- The importance of stressing the value of home learning
- The implementation within the department of the requirements for the teacher detailed above
- The implementation of regular monitoring procedures to ensure that home learning is set and assessed in a manner that is consistent with the subject and across the school.

Sanctions

- High expectations will be consistently conveyed to the whole class in order to ensure that students meet deadlines and know that sanctions will be imposed if they fail to meet the deadline.
- If a student fails to hand in home learning on the specified date or the work is not to an adequate standard the class teacher awards 'Missed homework deadline/inadequate/insufficient homework' sanction on ClassCharts. This carries a -1 and an automatic break time detention
- At this point, the teacher may grant the student a 24-hour extension to get the work completed or improved.
- If the student fails to hand the work in after the extension they are awarded the 'Missed homework extension' sanction this awards them a -2 and a lunchtime detention.
- If they fail to attend then lunchtime this will automatically be up scaled to an after school detention.
- Failure to submit home learning is recorded on classcharts and monitored by the Progress Leader and Form Tutor - students who repeatedly fail to complete home learning will be placed on the home learning report system

6. The Student should:

- Check classcharts every day for home learning set
- Ensure that parents regularly monitor classcharts
- Complete the home learning to the best of their ability
- Hand the home learning in on time
- Store it in the correct place
- Understand that if a piece of home learning fails to meet expectations- students will be required to re submit.

7. Parents

It is the Government's view that parents and carers should be encouraged, as far as possible, to:

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which students can do their home learning.
- Make it clear to students that they value home learning, and support the school in explaining how it can help them make progress at school.
- Encourage regular habits and routines for the completion of home learning
- Discuss schoolwork and home learning, with their children, showing interest in their work
- Encourage them to complete home learning to the best of their ability and praise them

when they do so

- Use classcharts check that home learning deadlines are met and monitor teacher notifications.
- Encourage their children to become increasingly independent in the completion of home learning.
- Encourage attendance at homework club.
- Contact the school promptly if they have any concerns about home learning.
- Ensure that outside interests and schoolwork commitments are balanced.

8. **The Leadership Team**

The Leadership team will consult the governors, parents, teachers and students to ensure:

- The home learning policy is led by the Leadership team as part of the school's overall learning and assessment policy
- There is a regular programme so that everyone – teachers, students and parents – know what to expect
- Students and parents are very clear and about what they need to do
- There is consistent practice within Departments.
- The expectation that students should complete home learning punctually and to the highest standard is shared by everyone.
- Home learning features in the regular monitoring and evaluation of teaching and learning by the Leadership Team. Procedures for the setting and assessment of home learning will be checked to ensure that there is compliance with school policy and that home learning is contributing to student progress and to the development of independent study skills
- Parents, students, teachers and governors will be involved in the review of this home learning policy

9. **Progress Leaders/Heads of Department**

If a parent has a concern about inadequate/too much home learning then the comments (in writing) of the subject teachers concerned must be sought. The parent concerned should be contacted with the results as soon as possible and if need be, invited to the school to discuss the situation.

Adjustments to the amount set and the nature of the work may be required from time to time.

10. **Special Needs Co-ordination**

Collaboration between the subject teacher and the special needs department is essential to ensure that students with individual needs are fully engaged with the home learning set. Individual skill practice should be incorporated into the work without overloading the student.