

ALAMEDA MIDDLE SCHOOL



Ambitious ■ Motivated
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HOMEWORK POLICY

MARCH 2026

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1 OVERVIEW

Homework has been extensively researched. There is a relatively consistent picture that pupils in schools which give more homework perform better. According to studies carried out by the Education Endowment Foundation, the impact of homework is, on average, five months' additional progress in secondary schools and three months in primary schools. Homework linked to classroom learning is more effective and the quality of the task set is more important than the quantity.

1.1 Aim

As a school, Alameda believes in the value of homework: it consolidates, supports and extends classroom learning; provides opportunities to prepare for future lessons and assessments and improves independent learning skills. It also enables parents and carers to participate in their child's learning.

Our homework policy and procedures help us to develop high educational standards, in line with our school aims. They underline our commitment to learning as a partnership between students, teachers and home. Homework enables pupils to:

- consolidate and reinforce the knowledge, understanding and skills developed at school (apply, research and consolidate);
- prepare for new learning activities, for example through additional reading;
- develop their ability to retrieve and recall information previously learnt
- access resources not available in school;
- develop the skills, confidence and motivation needed to study independently;
- show progress and understanding;
- enhance their study skills e.g. planning, time management, self-discipline, etc;
- manage demands, particularly as pupils approach KS4;
- foster a love of learning.

1.2 Expectations

All homework set is recorded on our homework portal - 'Edulink'. This is accessible on PC/tablet and mobile phones. Students, parents and staff have individual logins. Teachers will give a minimum of a week for the completion of homework tasks. Some tasks may be lengthier projects requiring longer than a week to complete.

How often and how much?

	Maths	English	Science	Humanities
Year 5	✓ Weekly	✓ Weekly		
Year 6	✓ Weekly	✓ Weekly		
Year 7	✓ Weekly	✓ Weekly	✓ Weekly	
Year 8	✓ Weekly	✓ Weekly	✓ Weekly	✓ Geography - half termly History- half termly

All other subjects may on occasion:

- set extended tasks or projects to be completed over a longer period of time.

Or

- set shorter tasks which link directly to the sequence of learning in lessons.

Daily reading and TT Rockstars spread across the week (a suggestion of 10 minutes three times each week) is an expectation in years 5 and 6.

Teachers are not expected to mark every single piece of homework, nor are they always expected to set formal written tasks. Teachers will ensure homework is responded to and feedback given in a timely manner following the appropriate school policies. Often, homework will be marked in class at the start of a lesson together as a group.

2 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 Pupils

Each pupil has a responsibility to:

- Access Edulink check regularly throughout the week;
- Ensure they understand the homework tasks, asking if they need further clarity;
- Find a suitable place to study, well away from likely distractions (e.g. mobile phones);
- Demonstrate a commitment to spending an allocated time doing the tasks set;
- Complete homework tasks to the best of their ability within the appropriate length of time;
- Persevere with difficult tasks but having the confidence to stop when, with diligence, tasks become too time-consuming;
- Ask for help and support, but in advance of the deadline set so that work can be completed on time;
- Remember that reading daily is important;
- Get into the habit of doing homework regularly and designate a regular homework time;
- Avoid academic cheating (e.g. using Alplagiarism or allowing someone else to copy work and submit it as their own).

2.2 Parents

Parents have a responsibility to:

- Support the school's policy on homework;
- Make it clear that they value homework;
- Activate at least one parental account to encourage and monitor homework and to review tasks set on Edulink;
- Inform staff about any concerns relating to homework;
- Provide a suitable space for their child to work, away from distractions (as far as possible);
- Ensure their child's work is independent (i.e. completed without AI assistance)

2.3 Teachers

Each subject teacher has a responsibility to:

- Set homework that is in line with the homework policy;
- Set all homework on Edulink;
- Record the submission of homework on Edulink;

- Set tasks that provide a suitable challenge, but are accessible to all;
- Notify pupils in class when a homework task has been set on Edulink;
- Make sure that all pupils know how to do the homework and clarify the purpose of the homework tasks;
- Allow at least a week for the completion of homework tasks (i.e. homework set on a Friday should not be due in before the following Friday);
- Ensure that homework completion is acknowledged and feedback is given;
- Monitor Edulink to identify pupils who are persistently not submitting homework and follow up with pupils and their parents in line with the school behaviour policy.

Heads of Departments have a responsibility to:

- Include suitable homework in the Schemes of Work which follow good practice;
- Monitor the implementation of homework by subject teachers;
- Support subject teachers in cases where the completion of homework is a persistent problem;
- Ensure that homework is regularly discussed so that good practice can be shared and developed across the department.

2.4 Heads of Year

Heads of year have a responsibility to:

- Monitor overall patterns of homework completion in their year group;
- Liaise with the relevant heads of departments, subject teachers and SLT to ensure effective communication of issues;
- Support tutors and subject teachers to ensure conscientious recording and completion of homework.

2.5 Form Tutors

Form tutors have a responsibility to:

- Ensure that the members of their tutor groups understand the homework expectations and reinforce the importance of homework;
- Ensure that all members of their tutor group know how to access Edulink;
- Be aware of any pupil's home circumstances that make the completion of homework difficult.

2.6 Senior Leaders

The Senior Leadership Team have a responsibility to:

- Maintain an overview of homework in line management meetings, departmental reviews and tutor team meetings;
- Ensure that pupils and parents are regularly informed of their responsibilities regarding homework;
- Support the departments with pupils who are having difficulties in completing their homework.

2.7 IT Manager

The IT Manager has a responsibility to:

- Ensure that all pupils, parents and staff have access to Edulink.

3 SANCTIONS

Teachers are expected to monitor the completion of homework by pupils. Those pupils who fail to complete tasks need to be sanctioned as follows:

- Subject teacher sets a new deadline. Lack of submission is recorded on Edulink.
- Subject teacher – if homework is not completed by the new deadline, pupils should lose their free time to complete the work. Repeated failure to complete homework should be communicated to parents/guardians. This will be via Edulink in the first instance.
- Head of Year – pupils who repeatedly do not hand in their homework should be referred to their Head of Year. They will discuss support moving forward to help ensure homework is completed. It is the subject teacher's responsibility to log this on Edulink.
- Persistent failure to complete homework will result in an after-school detention.

4 INCENTIVES

High quality homework and a good ethos should be sensitively praised in class. When appropriate, homework should be included in display work.

Achievement points should be awarded for good homework. For an exceptional piece of homework, a pupil may receive a Head Teacher's Award.