



CASTLE MANOR ACADEMY

HOME LEARNING POLICY



Date Approved	September 2018
Signed	 (Chair of Local Governing Body)
Name	Justine Dawkins
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PURPOSE

This policy outlines the purpose and nature of home learning at Castle Manor Academy.

At Castle Manor Academy, we have a knowledge-based approach to learning where we believe that children require a core, essential knowledge-base to strengthen and deepen their understanding across the breadth of subjects studied. Therefore, home learning should be robust and support student progress in the form of either knowledge retention or development, or deliberate practice of skills.

PRACTICE

KNOWLEDGE-BASED HOME LEARNING:

Knowledge-based home learning will be supported by the format of knowledge organisers (see appendix 1 for a possible idea.) Students will be provided with a knowledge organiser per subject, per half term or unit of study, which will outline the essential knowledge they need to learn. Each week, students are required to spend a specified number of minutes learning from their knowledge organisers for each subject. This time may be spent in a variety of ways, as directed by the subject teacher such as creating flash cards or self-quizzing.

In every subject, knowledge retention will be tested at least once a week during lessons via low-stakes testing, for example: 10 quick questions, True or False questions.

DELIBERATE PRACTISE HOME LEARNING:

Teachers must also set home learning that is deliberate practise, which could consist of tasks such as past exam questions, perfect paragraphs, subject specific skills practice or content drills that reinforce learning. These will be reviewed during the lessons, and outcomes tracked and monitored. Feedback for any written home learning will be provided by teachers during the lessons. This will include opportunities to reflect and improve.

The frequency and use of deliberate practise home learning will be outlined within subject specific curriculum plans, based on the requirements of the subject and year group, but will be at least fortnightly.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Middle Leaders will:

- Monitor the quality of knowledge organisers and materials provided for home learning via Go4Schools.

- Monitor teacher tracking of home learning
- Provide support to teachers when home learning intervention is required.
- Make use of learning and climate walks to ensure content drilling and quizzing is embedded into teaching practice.

Teachers will:

- Monitor the completion of home learning to ascertain if there is a need to attend a compulsory home learning club or additional intervention. Concerns will be communicated with home, well in advance of any report card deadlines. Persistent concerns will be communicated with the Team Leader and Achievement Leader.
- Set home learning that is cumulative in that knowledge organisers and deliberate practise for each half term should lead on from the previous half term or subject unit. Therefore, weekly testing can and will include knowledge learnt throughout the year.
- Explicitly teach students the skills required to ensure knowledge retention and application of skills can improve within the specific subject area.
- Ensure that knowledge organisers, deliberate practice tasks and any other relevant resources are uploaded at least half termly by each subject on to Go4Schools. Teachers will also ensure that paper resources are provided during lessons.

Students will:

- Ensure that they look after resources provided and print out resources from Go4Schools if a replacement is needed.
- Complete all home learning tasks set by each subject every week according to instructions provided by teachers.
- Make use of additional support provided by teachers if scores are consistently low to ensure that an improved approach to knowledge based learning is possible.
- Record all home learning tasks in their student organiser and tick off work when it is completed.

Parents will:

- Ensure that support is provided to students as necessary by helping with testing and content drills to ensure that study is a priority.
- Support students with accessing Go4Schools and communicating with school and subject teachers if any problems arise.
- Respond to any communication from teachers regarding home learning and provide additional support if necessary.
- Provide a calm and quiet working space for students to complete home learning.

