

DASP Middle Schools Home Learning Policy 2019

Home learning (homework) refers to tasks given to students by their teachers to be completed outside of usual lessons. Common home learning activities include completing tasks assigned in lessons, preparing for tasks in future lessons and revision for tests and examinations. The main purpose of home learning is to develop independent learning skills and to encourage a resilient, self-disciplined attitude to learning.

According to research, home learning can be most effective if tasks set relate to work currently being taught in class. It should allow students to further embed knowledge as well as offer the opportunity for students to research independently. With that in mind, all three Middle Schools broadly offer the same timetable of home learning, although individual schools may amend or adapt as necessary.

	KS2	KS3
English	1 hr a week	1 hr a week
Maths	1 hr a week	1 hr a week
Science		40 minutes a week
French		30 minutes a week
History	Occasional	1 per half term
Geography	Occasional	1 per half term

Reading

The importance of reading to and with your child cannot be overestimated. Children that are read to develop a wider vocabulary and are more able to make connections between ideas, giving them an advantage in every area of life. All DASP Middle schools believe that reading should be both a pleasure and a priority for our students. For that reason, reading at home is the most important part of DASP Middle Schools' home learning policy. Individual schools will provide ways that families can be supported in helping their child become a competent reader.

Maths

Quick recall of mental maths, including times tables (new Government requirements: all students required to know up to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4), give children a huge advantage. These skills allow them to move onto higher order skills such as problem solving and will remain with them for life. Experience shows us that the children who achieve highly in maths have had consistent support from home in their first years at Middle School.

The Role of Parents and Carers

Parents and Carers should encourage their children to complete home learning tasks diligently and try to ensure reasonable conditions for learning. Parents and Carers can help sons and daughters with home learning by discussing tasks, testing something that has been learned and talking about ideas.