

The King John School

Homework Policy

Homework is set regularly and students are encouraged to establish an effective home study routine. Homework is important because it encourages independent learning skills and helps students establish effective work habits including a regular and consistent approach to study.

Homework should be set in the context of all other worthwhile activities in which students can participate after school hours for example sports, animal care, learning and practising a musical instrument, jobs to earn money, family outings, hobbies and clubs.

Homework for King John students may take a variety of forms and could include:

- Specially prepared homework tasks that extend class work
- Learning homework
- Research assignments
- Practical exercises
- Longer term assignments/projects
- Completing work started in class
- Revision
- Wider reading
- Practising a skill

As a guide to parents, students in Years 7 and 8 should expect homework for English (once a week), Maths (twice a week), Science (once a week) and Modern Foreign Languages (once a week), History (once a week), Geography (once a week) and other subjects the equivalent of once a fortnight. It should be noted here that some subjects in the curriculum may take a different approach to the setting of homework depending on the requirements of the subject/topic. Subject teachers may use an extended project or allocate an extended time period to complete the homework. This approach allows for flexibility in the curriculum, subjects and topics within subjects can be addressed differently. The flexible approach, the use of extended projects and extended time allocation allows the student to work in more depth and detail. It gives the student the appropriate time to complete work and allows them the opportunity to work at their own pace but to a set deadline. The student is able to have choice in which subject to work on each evening. Subject teachers will guide students but your support at home is necessary as your son/daughter may need help on how to effectively allocate time to each subject. This should give an average workload of an hour each evening.

Students studying examination subjects in Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 will receive variable amounts of homework depending on their course choices and the course requirements. Students will be expected to take an increasing level of responsibility for planning and completion of such work.

We stress this is an approximate guide and time spent on home study will differ with the needs of individual students. The amount of homework should be related to the specific tasks to be completed rather than an arbitrary time.

Year	Guide to Independent/Home Study per Week
Years 7 & 8	5 hours
Year 9	6 – 8 hours
Years 10 & 11	10 hours
Years 12 & 13	15 hours minimum

In Year 7 to 11 each student is supplied with a planner in which to record homework and homework deadlines. In addition to the planner, parents and students can access homework deadlines, subject and homework titles on the SIMS gateway to support their son/daughter in managing and organising their home study.

Parents are encouraged to discuss homework with their children and help them plan its completion on time. This is especially important with extended homework that may cover a series of homework periods. If there are problems the student's tutor should be contacted.

Access to a computer or the Internet is essential for some homework tasks. When access at home is a problem students should be encouraged to use the school's facilities which are available at breaks, lunchtimes and after school. Marking may be done by the teacher or by the student in class as part of the lesson activities and learning.

YEARS 12 & 13

Students in Years 12 and 13 will receive variable amounts of homework and private study depending on their course choices and the course requirements. Students will be expected to take responsibility for planning and completion of such work. As a guide students should expect to study independently for a minimum of 15 hours each week outside lesson time. Students in Year 12 and 13 will have their homework set on the SIMS gateway which can be accessed by parents and students.
