

Home Learning Statements for Years 10 and 11

English:

The English Department will set one home learning per week, which will vary in nature according to the unit of work being studied.

N.B. a) There will not necessarily be a piece of written home learning set every week.

b) One piece of work may be set over more than one home learning slot.

Students at KS4 in addition to specific set home learning tasks, will be expected to work on coursework planning and preparation, as directed, in order to meet internal deadlines.

The following areas will be addressed or consolidated through the home learning set: -

- Planning, drafting, completing written pieces.
- Research.
- Skills practice - e.g. grammar, punctuation, spelling.
- Speaking and listening preparation.

All GCSE coursework should have been completed by the Whitsun of Year 10 and the focus next year will be on exam preparation for both language and literature papers. All home learning set will be centred on this and there will never be a week when there is no home learning to do; for example, pupils can always re-read a text, check through prepared notes or read up on current affairs as a way of improving their general knowledge at the same time taking note of writing style in newspapers, magazines and on websites. Recent English language papers have expected candidates to have an awareness of and opinion on the plight of the homeless; investment in space travel or alternatives; and the treatment of older people in society. Therefore, any wider reading could prove useful.

Please be aware that although all KS4 students are issued with an A4 exercise book, the purpose of this book is for planning, drafting, note taking and any other preparatory work. This work may be proof read through pair or group work and formatively assessed by your child's English teacher. The piece of work for summative assessment will be submitted on file paper, formally marked and retained in school.

The amount of time to be spent on each home learning session is detailed in the School Home Learning Policy.

Mathematics:

KS4 will have 2-3 home learning sessions per fortnight. Each piece should last approximately 30-40 minutes.. Activities will include: -

- Exercises from text book or home learning book issued at the beginning of the academic year.
- Online exercises from our subscription websites.
- Worksheets.
- Learning key facts.
- Making up problems/questions.
- Researching famous mathematicians.
- Making posters of key facts.
- Completing revision questions for tests.
- Past examination papers.
- Work relating to coursework.

Science:

Pupils in KS4 will receive three Science home learning sessions per fortnight. Each home learning properly completed to a good standard can be expected to take up to 45 minutes on average. Home learning tasks will include research tasks; work related to aspects of coursework; follow up work from class learning which includes work related to practical investigations and revision home learning for module tests and end of topic tests.

Humanities and Geography, RE & History:

A variety of home learning tasks will be set in Humanities, Geography, History and RE. These will include essays, research tasks, reading and comprehension exercises, note-taking and revision. Students will also be required to produce coursework assignments, of necessity much of this work will have to be done at home.

Geography, RE and History: 1 * 30 - 40 minute home learning per week.

Modern Foreign Languages: German and French

Year 11 will have 5 lessons per fortnight. They will have 2 home learning sessions a week, written or learning. There might be a grammar or a reading exercise 'online' on a computer or it may be working on coursework. On the 5th lesson they will be expected to look through whatever has been done, revising vocab, grammar etc.

Year 10 have 5 lessons a fortnight. There will be two lots of 30 minutes home learning per week, written and or learning. It may involve an 'on line' exercise on computer.

Physical Education:

The department sets home learning to support and challenge the students. Throughout the year the pupils will be required to complete a variety of tasks related to the theoretical aspects of the subject. The work should take 45 minutes to complete, which is an average estimate. The format of the home learning will include worksheets from the departmental home learning handbook, internet research and prospective examination questions. Revision for class tests and year examinations will also be an integral part of home learning throughout the year.

Information Technology:

Year 10 pupils will have home learning set once a week. Pupils should spend approximately 40 minutes on home learning.

This home learning will include:

- Analysis, design, research and evaluation work to be included in the coursework.
- Questions to help develop a further understanding of ICT.
- Research assignments to use as part of the coursework.

The year 11 home learning will differ from that set in year 10 in that:

- The year 11 coursework will require more independent research. Where research is set as home learning, pupils will have to demonstrate the data / information they have collected and how they are going to use it in their coursework.

Business Studies

Year 10 students will normally be expected to read and answer questions on case study material that will take on average 45 minutes to complete. At the end of a topic students will be tested and home learning will be allocated for students to prepare for this and hence develop their revision skills. At appropriate stages of the year students may be set a home learning to research how a business issue is affecting local companies or is reported in the media.

Year 11 students will be allocated home learning time during the Autumn Term and the first half of the Spring Term to enable them to meet the demands of GCSE coursework. This will involve research and the writing of a project that assesses the feasibility of starting a new business. Students will be expected to spend at least one hour per week on this home learning. This will also consolidate their learning of the theory tested in the GCSE examinations.

Once coursework is complete Business Studies students will be set home learning based on past examination papers that will underpin a programme of revision. The other objective is to develop examination technique and time management skills. Students will be expected to spend at least one hour per week and supplement this with their own revision time closer to the examinations.

Child Development

Year 10 home learning will be set once per week and will be directly relevant to the subjects being studied. Home learning will be designed to compliment and re-enforce learning during lessons and will progressively develop independent learning in preparation for coursework in year 11.

Year 11 home learning will be focused on completion of coursework by working to deadlines. For the Individual Task all coursework will be completed in a file, which will be monitored by the class teacher. Work will also be set which will ensure students are learning and re-enforcing the theory aspects of the course previously covered. The focus of home learning will be either revision or research for their project with a heavy emphasis on independent learning and taking personal responsibility for progress.

Music:

GCSE students should be practicing their instrument for at least 30 minutes every other day as well as 1 hour per week composition (when applicable) and written home learning set in a lesson. Written or listening based home learning will be set once a week.

Art:

During GCSE pupils are set two units of coursework. In year 10 the theme is 'Reflection and Distortion' and in Year 11 'Technique and Fine Art'. The Art Department sets summer home learning for all pupils. Expectations are high and therefore pupils are expected to spend no less than 1 hour on each home learning set. Home learning in the first term is set by the Art Department and this occurs on a weekly basis. As pupils projects' develop individually and their ideas diversify, home learning is then set so that pupils can interpret according to their own needs and interests.

Pupils at GCSE level are encouraged to carry out individual research not necessarily prescribed by the department. In order to obtain a higher grade the Art Department encourages independent study. Extra coursework sessions are provided every Wednesday after school 3- 4.30pm.

NVQ:

Home learning will be set which extends practical subject knowledge studied at Aylesbury College. This will normally be completed within student workbooks.

Drama:

It is expected that GCSE pupils in Drama will keep a written notebook of exploration undertaken in each lesson. Pupils can also use their notebooks to record details of inspirational ideas or things that they see, which will inform their performance or stimulus basis.

Further to this requirement, pupils will have to carry out either performance practice or essay writing leading up to both examination and coursework deadlines; these will be set at varying intervals throughout the academic year.

Technology

Home learning in Technology is set on a regular basis, appropriate to the specific focus being studied. It is designed to reinforce and extend subject knowledge, to foster independent learning skills and to encourage an interest in creativity.

In year 10, home learning is course related and requires students to exercise self discipline in working on their own, researching, designing and study skills. There will be approximately 40-45 minutes home learning set per week.

In year 11, home learning is related to coursework. Students will continue coursework at home, producing a folder to accompany their practical work. Home learning will include testing of existing products, visits, research and designing. Home learning will be approximately 45 minutes to 1 hour per week.