



Homework Policy

2025-2026

The Thomas Hall School approach to homework.

At Thomas Hall School, we believe that homework encourages the development of independent learning skills and allows students to take more ownership of their education. Promotion and emphasis of homework skills from the start of their learning journey helps to prepare students for developing independence and, in turn, aids our students' progression and development.

- Supporting pupils to feel confident in new learning.
- Building a dialogue of learning between home and school;
- Teaching children good habits about valuing and being responsible for their learning.

The purpose of homework:

At Thomas Hall School, we believe that homework is an important part of every child's learning journey.

Research shows that regular, purposeful homework can have a positive impact on pupil progress and attainment. The Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) reports that, on average, effective homework can lead to five months of additional progress across a school year, particularly when it is focused on consolidation, retrieval practice, and preparing for future learning.

Homework at our school provides opportunities for pupils to:

- Consolidate and extend learning from lessons, ensuring key knowledge and skills are practised and remembered.
- Prepare for future learning, by introducing ideas and knowledge that will be built upon in upcoming lessons.
- Strengthen home-school partnerships, giving parents and carers an insight into the learning taking place and enabling them to support their child's progress.
- Develop independent learning habits, encouraging resilience, organisation, and responsibility as well as building strong study skills that will support pupils as they progress through school and into further education, training, or employment.

Homework at Thomas Hall is designed to be purposeful, manageable, and meaningful, to support long term success by giving them tools to become confident, independent learners.

Primary

Daily reading:

For all pupils, being fluent readers is important for pupils to engage with and enjoy learning across the curriculum. We expect pupils to engage in practising reading a minimum of three times per week, even when they have achieved fluency. Parents/carers are expected to sign a reading record to validate that the pupil has read their reading book from school. The school encourages parents/carers to listen to their child read and include a comment where possible.

For pupils with specific needs, a bespoke agreement regarding homework may be made between the SENDco, Teacher and Parent/Carer.

Not all homework is done at home. For some pupils who find it hard to work at home, or for some tasks which may require resources (books, software, equipment) more readily available at school, it is necessary or desirable to carry out the task at school.

Early Years and Key Stage 1

During the first term in Reception, children will take home phonics homework to consolidate the sounds they are learning each week. When they are ready, children will receive a daily reading book so that parents can read with their child at home.

Parents are also encouraged to help their child practise the 45 key spelling words, which they will receive at the beginning of term.

Reception

Term 1 – Daily RWI reading and weekly word/sound cards.

Term 2 - Daily RWI reading and word pots/weekly spellings.

Term 3 - Daily RWI reading and weekly spellings.

Year 1: RWI reading homework. Weekly phonics/spellings, maths and literacy homework.

Year 2: RWI or daily reading. Weekly spellings, alternate weeks maths and literacy homework.

Key Stage 2

In addition to daily reading, the class teacher will set homework activities consisting of:

Year 3, 4 & 5 - Weekly spellings, times tables/number bonds related to Key Instant Recall Facts.

In **Year 6** - Weekly spellings, times tables/number bonds related to Key Instant Recall Facts. The children may also be set additional practice which will assist them in revision for their SATs.

All Primary children will also receive a termly 'menu' of activities, shared by the class teacher of additional, suggested activities for termly homework, related to learned content or personal skill development. An example of this can be seen below:

Year 4 Spring Homework Menu



This is your homework menu for this term. **Mild Chilli** tasks are checked weekly on **Thursdays**. **Medium** and **hot** chilli homework tasks due 2nd April 2024, but feel free to share when complete.

House points will be given for homework that is completed.



Complete **2 hot chilli** tasks.
R2 for each piece.

Research Project

Either complete a project all about the Vikings or a country of your choice in the Southern Hemisphere

Visit the museum

Look for artefacts from the Viking period at the museum.

Donate to a charity

Give some things you don't use anymore to a charity you'd like to support.
Take photos of your trip.



Complete **3 medium chilli** tasks.
R1 for each piece.

Write a book review

Write a book review to share with the class.

Practice some French Greetings

Can you practice speaking French to your family.

Multiplication and division

Use the multiplication and division booklet in your homework pack.

Can you ask for some food and drink in French?

Times table Practice

Practice on TTRS at home. Or use your times table book

Go Outdoors!

Get outside for a walk, see if you can identify any of the seasonal changes, draw and describe something that you found

Reading Aloud

Read aloud to an adult 3x per week. Talk to them about words you don't know.



Mild chilli tasks should be completed **weekly**.
R2 when **all** complete.

Secondary

Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4

What homework will my child receive?

There are two types of homework:

1. **Online homework:** Some homework is set online and in place of the paper homework, including most homework for Mathematics and Science. Maths homework should be recorded in homework books, and students should also log SENECA scores for science in their homework book.
2. **Self-quizzing homework:** Your child also receives self-quizzing homework once a week from each subject. This ensures that your child is memorising and recalling the powerful knowledge that they need to be successful for each subject. This will be checked by tutors weekly.

How much homework should my child be doing?

Your child should be completing homework from at least **two subjects** per evening.

- Students in Year 7 should spend approximately 15 minutes per subject each night
- Students in Year 8 should spend approximately 20 minutes per subject each night
- Students in Year 9 should spend approximately 30 minutes per subject each night
- Students in KS4 should spend approximately 1 hour per subject each night

An example homework schedule is below:

YG	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7	English History	Maths Drama	Science Geography	Music French	Environmental Science Art
8	Environmental Science Art	English History	Music French	Science Geography	Maths Drama
9	Maths Drama	Environmental Science Art	English History	Music French	Science Geography
10	Option A Option B	English lit French	Maths Science	Science English lang	History/Geog Maths
11	History/Geog English	English Science	Maths French	Science Maths	Option A Option B

All homework books are checked for the previous week by class tutors on **Monday afternoon registration for KS3** and **Tuesday afternoon for KS4**. Tutors are asked to sign and date each book to show that this has been checked.

For students who have not completed their homework, they will be placed into a detention on **Thursday after school for 30 minutes**. Parents will be informed if their child has been given a detention by Wednesday afternoon (24hrs Prior).

Subject teachers will check online homework

How can you support your child?

- Make sure your child brings their self-quizzing book and Knowledge Organiser to school every day.
- Check your child's homework book every day and encourage them to complete their self-quizzing activities.
- Make sure your child has a quiet, well-lit place to do homework.
- Avoid having your child do homework with the television on or in places with other distractions.
- Be positive about homework. Tell your child how important school is and about developing positive learning habits – a good routine early in secondary school will help them with revision and independent study skills for KS4 and beyond. The attitude you express about homework will be the attitude your child acquires.
- Help your child with time management. Establish a set time each day for doing homework. Don't let your child leave homework until just before bedtime. Think about using a weekend morning or afternoon for working on projects.

Special or additional needs:

For pupils with specific needs, a bespoke agreement regarding homework will be made between the SENDco, Teacher and Parent/Carer.