



Ellesmere Park  
High School

*Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions*

# Homework Guidelines



Proud to be part of  
**Consilium**  
Academies

## Introduction

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At Consilium Academies and Ellesmere Park High School, we recognise the vital role of homework in enhancing educational outcomes for students in Years 7 to 11. Research shows that homework has a positive impact on student outcomes (+5 months, particularly with students in secondary schools). The guidance below aims to ensure homework contributes effectively to the learning process, aligning with the curriculum in our school and helping students to achieve their potential. Our approach is designed to support classroom learning, foster independent study skills, and balance academic demands with students' well-being. Homework will be set primarily on SENECA and SPARX.

## Objectives of Homework

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- 1. Curriculum Support**  
To reinforce and extend knowledge and skills related to the National Curriculum and GCSE preparation.
- 2. Skill Development**  
To cultivate independent learning, critical thinking, and effective study habits.
- 3. Engagement and Retention**  
To facilitate regular engagement with subject material, enhancing understanding and retention.
- 4. Communication**  
To establish a strong collaboration between the school, parents, and carers to support the child's academic goals and foster their development.
- 5. Celebration**  
To acknowledge and celebrate outstanding effort and attainment beyond the classroom.

## Guidance

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- 1. Immediate, diagnostic feedback**  
Using platforms such as SENECA and SPARX, students will receive instant feedback on their homework. This feedback will then be used to generate future homework which challenges those areas in which they may be deficient.
- 2. Accessibility of homework**  
The vast majority of homework is designed to be completed on a laptop or a hand-held device. There will be no need for students to transport paper homework to and from school. All homework tasks will be completed online, unless otherwise stipulated by their teachers. Students who wish to complete their homework at school will be able to do so in the library until 3:30pm.
- 3. Monitoring of engagement and effort**  
Staff will monitor the extent of student engagement with homework, and time will be put aside to celebrate outstanding effort on a whole-school basis.
- 4. Reinforcement of in-class learning**  
Homework will be set to reinforce students' learning in school, allowing students the time to practice their subject-specific knowledge and skills.
- 5. Parental and Guardian Engagement**  
Students are encouraged to complete homework independently, but parents and guardians can play a crucial role in providing an appropriate environment for study, and by encouraging a clear routine for homework. Communication between home and school is key to addressing any concerns or difficulties related to homework.
- 6. ReadingWise Homework**  
ReadingWise Homework is focussed on vocabulary acquisition. It should be delivered in 5 - 10 minute sessions with research showing that shorter sessions daily are best. As a school, we recommend 5 - 10 minutes 3 times per week. The Vocab programme uses 'spaced learning' – this means words and definitions are revisited regularly helping pupils to remember them. A key focus of this provision is to develop independence – the programme allows pupils to learn at their own pace, and to take control of their learning. This independence is an important factor in success. This will be monitored and supported by form tutors.

## Frequency of Homework

Key Stage 3 – Core Subjects (English, Maths, Science)	Once per week
Key Stage 3 – Non-Core Subjects	Once per fortnight
Key Stage 4 – Core Subjects (English, Maths, Science)	Once per week
Key Stage 4 – Non-Core Subjects	Once per week
Literacy	Thrice per week but set as one activity on ReadingWise

