



QUEEN'S PARK HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to share some important updates regarding our approach to homework at Queen's Park High School, which will take effect from September 2025.

At Queen's Park, we believe that meaningful and well-structured homework plays a crucial role in supporting your child's academic progress. It reinforces classroom learning, nurtures independent study habits, and prepares students for success both within school and in their future endeavours.

This letter outlines how homework will be set in the upcoming academic year and how you can help support your child's learning at home.

The Importance of Homework

Homework is thoughtfully planned across all subjects to:

- Reinforce and consolidate classroom learning
- Encourage independent thinking and personal responsibility
- Develop research, organisation, and study skills
- Promote effective time management and self-discipline
- Strengthen communication between school and home

In Key Stage 4 (Years 10–11), homework becomes even more significant as students prepare for their GCSE examinations.

How Homework Will Be Set

Most homework tasks will be set through our **Synergy platform**, where you will be able to view assignments, deadlines, and supporting materials. In addition:

- **Educake** will be used for English, Maths, and Science. In Maths (KS4), additional booklet-based homework will be provided to support key learning objectives.
- **Language Nut** will support Modern Foreign Languages.

Separate login details and guidance for these platforms will be provided by subject teachers at the start of the year.

Homework Frequency and Time Expectations

To help students manage their workload and establish consistent routines, each year group will follow a structured homework timetable. While we aim to follow this schedule closely, there may occasionally be adjustments to support curriculum needs, assessments, or project work.

As a general guide:

- **Homework tasks will typically take up to one hour per subject.**
- **Years 7–9:** Students should aim to complete at least 30 minutes of independent study each day in addition to set homework (e.g., reading or review activities).

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- **Years 10–11:** Students should plan for a minimum of one hour of daily independent study focused on revision and GCSE preparation.
- **Years 7–9** will also be offered the opportunity to complete 1–2 *Extended Learning Projects* (ELPs) per half term in addition to their weekly homework. Details are outlined below.

Types of Homework Students May Receive

Homework tasks will vary by subject and year group and may include:

- Online quizzes (e.g., via Educake)
- Reading and research tasks
- Extended written work
- Creative projects or presentations
- Vocabulary practice and memorisation
- Revision techniques such as flashcards or mind maps
- Coursework and past paper practice (KS4)
- Performance or practical tasks (e.g., PE, Drama, Music)

This varied approach ensures that all students have opportunities to engage with their learning in ways that suit their individual strengths and learning styles.

Extended Learning Projects (Years 7–9)

Extended Learning Projects (ELPs) are optional, enrichment-based activities designed to encourage students to explore topics of interest more deeply and develop independent learning skills.

Examples may include:

- Visiting a museum, gallery, or historic site
- Producing a creative piece of writing, artwork, or music
- Undertaking a personal research project
- Participating in a physical or outdoor activity

We encourage students to complete 1–2 ELPs each half term. Up to 20 reward points can be earned per project, recognising student initiative, creativity, and effort.

Reading Expectations

We strongly encourage all students to read for at least 30 minutes each day. Regular reading helps to expand vocabulary, deepen comprehension, and build confidence across the curriculum.

If your child would like help selecting appropriate reading material, their subject teachers or our school librarian will be happy to provide tailored recommendations based on their interests and reading level.

How You Can Support Your Child (Particularly in KS4)

Your involvement at home makes a significant difference. You can support your child's learning and revision by:

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- Creating a quiet, distraction-free study space
- Helping plan a realistic and manageable revision schedule
- Encouraging short, frequent study sessions
- Providing useful resources (e.g., notebooks, pens, flashcards)
- Asking them to explain topics or quiz them on key facts
- Celebrating effort and progress as much as achievement
- Supporting healthy habits (adequate sleep, nutritious meals, regular exercise)

You don't need to be an expert in every subject to provide valuable support — your encouragement alone can greatly boost your child's motivation and confidence.

How Homework Will Be Assessed

Teachers may assess homework in various ways, including:

- Written or verbal feedback
- Peer or self-assessment
- Real-time marking in lessons

Reward points will be awarded for homework completed to a high standard. Students who engage with ELPs will receive additional recognition for their creativity and independence.

Where homework is not completed without a valid reason, a 30-minute detention may be issued in line with our behaviour policy. If your child is facing difficulties with homework, please do not hesitate to get in touch — we are here to help.

Further Information and Support

If you have any general queries about our homework approach, please feel free to contact me — Mrs Lisa Phillips, Assistant Headteacher — via the Synergy platform.

For questions related to individual subjects, your child's subject teacher will be happy to help and can also be contacted through Synergy.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. By working in partnership, we can help every student develop the habits, independence, and confidence they need to achieve their full potential.

Kind regards,

Lisa Phillips
Assistant Headteacher
Queen's Park High School