



Spalding High School

Stonegate, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE11 2PJ

Telephone 01775 722110

Email enquiries@spaldinghigh.lincs.sch.uk

Headmistress Mrs M K Anderson B.Ed



Dear Parents/Carers,

As part of our commitment to effective teaching and learning, we are writing to explain our approach to homework and share the timetable now in place for all Year 7 students. We hope this information is useful and will help you support your child with the completion of their homework.

The importance and purpose of homework

According to John Hattie, a renowned education researcher from New Zealand, homework at secondary level has an effect size of $d = 0.64$. An effect size of 0.2 is considered small, 0.4 medium and 0.6 large. Hattie argues that educational approaches with an effect size above 0.4 have a meaningful impact. On this basis, homework at secondary level can have a significant positive effect on learning.

Beyond its measurable impact, homework extends practice and helps students develop fluency, confidence and deeper recall of key concepts. Given the limitations of lesson time, structured independent practice is essential to consolidate understanding. Homework also encourages students to develop independent learning skills, take greater ownership of their studies, prepare effectively for lessons and make the most of teacher input.

As an integral part of learning, homework reinforces skills, develops disciplined study habits and broadens knowledge beyond the classroom. However, with the rapid development of artificial intelligence (AI), it is important that our approach also supports academic integrity and meaningful engagement with learning.

Our homework policy therefore aims to encourage students to use AI ethically and responsibly, while ensuring that their work reflects genuine understanding and effort. This will help protect the integrity of assessments, promote deep learning and prepare students to navigate the role of AI in education and beyond.

The full **Homework Policy** can be found on the school website under 'About Us' > 'Policies'. Our **Generative AI: Acceptable Use For Students** is also included in student planners.

Responsibilities

The School will:

- Set homework regularly and in line with the published timetable.
- Set tasks that are suitable, achievable within the allocated time and designed to minimise AI over-reliance.
- Teach students about the responsible and ethical use of AI, including its limitations, age restrictions and the risks of plagiarism and over-reliance.
- Ensure homework is clearly explained and recorded by students in their planners.
- Check planners regularly and monitor homework completion and standards.
- Avoid routinely setting homework for completion the following day.
- Recognise excellent effort and reward accordingly.
- Provide support opportunities, including private study and individual support where needed.
- Support students who are finding it difficult to meet homework expectations and involve parents/carers where concerns arise.
- Address repeated late or incomplete homework through appropriate departmental action and sanctions.

Students will:

- Record all homework and deadlines in their planner and ensure they understand the task.
- Seek help from their teacher or tutor if they are unsure about the task or experience difficulties.
- Plan their time and ensure they have the resources needed to complete their work.
- Complete homework to the best of their ability and submit it on time and in the required format.
- Ensure that their work is their own and is not plagiarised.
- Catch up on homework missed through absence wherever possible.
- Speak to their teacher or tutor if homework is taking longer than the published time or if they are experiencing difficulties.
- Respond positively to feedback and advice.
- Use AI responsibly, complying with age restrictions and avoiding over-reliance on it for independent work.

Parents/Carers will:

- Take an interest in their child's homework and offer support where possible.
- Encourage their child to work in a suitable, quiet environment.
- Check and sign their child's planner regularly.
- Raise concerns with the Form Tutor or subject teacher if they are worried about homework, including issues relating to the use of AI.

Year 7 Homework Timetable

To help Year 7 students adapt to secondary school routines, **only core subjects will set homework during Term 1.**

From **Term 2**, homework will be allocated across the two-week timetable as follows:

- **English, Maths, Science and RS:** 2 × 30 minutes
- **French:** 3 × 20 minutes
- **Art, Computing, Drama, Geography, History, Music and Technology:** 1 × 30 minutes

A copy of the homework timetable for your child's form, covering Term 1 and from Term 2 onwards, is attached.

If you have any questions or concerns during the year, please do not hesitate to contact the School.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs E Spinks
Induction Manager & Head of Year 7

Homework Timetables Y7 2026/2027 – TERM 1

Allocation per 2 week timetable: English, Maths, Science – 2 x 30 mins

7C									
Mon 1	Tues 1	Weds 1	Thurs 1	Fri 1	Mon 2	Tues 2	Weds 2	Thurs 2	Fri 2
Science	Technology	English	Maths			Science		English	Maths

7J									
Mon 1	Tues 1	Weds 1	Thurs 1	Fri 1	Mon 2	Tues 2	Weds 2	Thurs 2	Fri 2
Science	Technology	English	Maths			Science		English	Maths

7N									
Mon 1	Tues 1	Weds 1	Thurs 1	Fri 1	Mon 2	Tues 2	Weds 2	Thurs 2	Fri 2
Science		English	Maths		Science		Technology	English	Maths

7P									
Mon 1	Tues 1	Weds 1	Thurs 1	Fri 1	Mon 2	Tues 2	Weds 2	Thurs 2	Fri 2
Science		English	Maths		Science		Technology	English	Maths

7S									
Mon 1	Tues 1	Weds 1	Thurs 1	Fri 1	Mon 2	Tues 2	Weds 2	Thurs 2	Fri 2
Science		English	Maths			Science		English	Maths
						Technology			

In addition, Y7 students are expected to read a minimum of 6 books over the course of the year. Teachers of English and the Librarians recommend that students should be reading for a minimum of 10 minutes per day in order to achieve the expectations.

Homework Timetables Y7 2026/2027 – FROM TERM 2

Allocation per 2 week timetable: English, Maths, Science, RE 2 X 30mins

French 3 X 20mins

Art, Computing, Drama, Geography, History, Music, Technology 1 X 30mins

7C									
Mon 1	Tues 1	Weds 1	Thurs 1	Fri 1	Mon 2	Tues 2	Weds 2	Thurs 2	Fri 2
Science	Geography	English	Maths	French	Computing	Science	French	English	Maths
RE	Technology	History		Drama	Music	RE		Art	French

7J									
Mon 1	Tues 1	Weds 1	Thurs 1	Fri 1	Mon 2	Tues 2	Weds 2	Thurs 2	Fri 2
Science	French	English	Maths	RE	Computing	Science	RE	English	Maths
Music	Technology		History	French	Geography	French	Drama		Art

7N									
Mon 1	Tues 1	Weds 1	Thurs 1	Fri 1	Mon 2	Tues 2	Weds 2	Thurs 2	Fri 2
Science	RE	English	Maths		Science	Computing	Music	English	Maths
Drama	French	Geography	Art		French	History	Technology	RE	French

7P									
Mon 1	Tues 1	Weds 1	Thurs 1	Fri 1	Mon 2	Tues 2	Weds 2	Thurs 2	Fri 2
Science	French	English	Maths	French	Science	Computing	Technology	English	Maths
RE	Art	Drama		Geography	RE	Music		French	History

7S									
Mon 1	Tues 1	Weds 1	Thurs 1	Fri 1	Mon 2	Tues 2	Weds 2	Thurs 2	Fri 2
Science	French	English	Maths	RE	French	Science	French	English	Maths
Geography	Drama	History	Music		Computing	Technology	Art	RE	

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