

13th September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Last year Springfield School trialled several different systems to evaluate the ease and efficiency of setting homework online. After receiving overwhelmingly positive feedback from parents, staff and pupils, we have decided to adopt Google Classrooms as our system for the setting and recording of homework. In effect, this means that all class teachers will be setting homework online from the beginning of this term. Pupils are still expected to record their homework in their planners. The teacher will then record the homework using Google Classrooms.

Homework is a valuable supplement to the learning experience of all pupils in the school and it has many purposes, for example:

- To encourage and develop self-discipline, study habits and a range of skills in planning and organising time
- To allow reinforcing, extending and consolidating of work done in class
- To give pupils experience of working on their own, and to develop in pupils a sense of responsibility and commitment to their own learning
- To involve parents/carers as partners in education
- To prepare for tests and examinations

Teachers will set a variety of different types of task for homework, depending upon the curriculum. For example:

- Researching (extended projects set over a longer period or resource gathering in preparation for future lessons)
- Learning (e.g. vocabulary, spellings, facts)
- Extension tasks that deepen the learning in the lesson (set for more able pupils)
- Writing assignments/drafting
- Reading
- Practising (e.g. presentations/newly acquired skills/examination questions)
- Projects to supplement the learning (completed over a number of weeks)

If a set homework task requires pupils to use ICT to complete it, and they do not have access to a computer at home, teachers will encourage them to take advantage of the use of the school's ICT facilities at lunch time or after school. Similarly, work that is produced using the computer should be printed at school and handed to the teacher.

All subjects are expected to set homework, the amount will vary. However, the following can be used as a guide:

- In Year 7 and Year 8, pupils should expect to receive between 1 and 1½ hours homework each night
- In Years 9, 10 and 11 this should increase to 2 ½ hours per night



As parents/carers you will be able to receive an emailed summary of the homework that has been set for your child that week. At the bottom of this form you are asked to provide the school with your preferred email address. You may of course opt out of this system. Please sign and return this form to your child's tutor via your child, no later than 22nd September. Should you have any difficulty please contact the school using the following address: contact@springfield.uk.net

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Fiona Robertson
Assistant Headteacher

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Please complete the reply slip below and return to your child's tutor.

Your name:

Your child's name: Tutor group.....

Your preferred email address/addresses:

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I give my permission to use my email address for this purpose:

Signature..... Date