



Homework

'I'd prefer students to join the guides or cubs, or ride a horse rather than worry about homework – it's about holistic development.'

Bob Middleton, Head Teacher, King's Hawford School

Not everyone agrees that homework is 'a good thing', as the quote above shows.

As Parents and Teachers the following needs to be considered about the homework that is set for your children.

The things we need to consider: The purpose of homework. The amount of homework appropriate for different age groups and for different subjects. Is the homework challenging? Some will be, some will be more routine. Is this stimulating homework? Again this may depend on the purpose of the homework. Is this differentiated homework to meet the needs of the students...?

At Island School we believe...

'Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Regular homework is important, since it gives students the opportunity to practice at home the tasks done in class, and helps the students work towards improving important skills. It also helps children to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help throughout their time at school, and in adult life. We also believe that students learn in all kinds of ways and that the activities that your children are involved in are as important to this learning process and the development of skills as the specific homework set. All children need time to be children.'

Teachers always aim to give homework that stimulates students and engages their minds. Homework tries to.....

- Give students the opportunity to practice at home the tasks done in class, to reinforce the lessons learned and improve important skills.
- Help students become confident and independent in their learning, develop study skills (such as research) and reinforce good learning habits.
- Ensure that the curriculum is covered.
- Introduce new ideas and encourage enquiry.
- Encourage students to learn to use resources, such as libraries, reference materials and websites.
- Explore subjects more fully than classroom time permits.
- Extend learning by applying skills that students have acquired already to new situations.

Trips

The school offers a programme of trips and visits throughout the year. The school regards these trips as an essential part of the curriculum. The list below gives a flavour of what is offered during the year:

- Fieldwork day trips such as Geography trips for Years 7 to 9.
- Residential fieldwork, in subjects such as Geography and Biology at IB level.
- The Group 4 Project week at IB Level.
- The BTEC fieldtrip to Thailand.
- IB Music trip to Beijing.
- Bronze and Silver HKAYP.
- Visits to Baiwan in Guangdong.
- CAS Week trips in November to various destinations.

Trips and visits are conducted within the guidelines of the ESF Trips and Visits policy.

Approved by the School Council, to be reviewed June 2017