

FRASERBURGH ACADEMY - FAMILY LEARNING SESSION

HOW TO HELP WITH HOMEWORK



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WHY IS HOMEWORK IMPORTANT - PUPILS

- Homework helps your child to:
 - learn how to organise and manage their time
 - take more responsibility for their own learning
 - practise and build on what they have learned at school
 - develop confidence to deal with frustrations, overcome difficulties and solve problems
 - learn and work independently in the future.



WHY IS HOMEWORK IMPORTANT - TEACHERS

- Homework helps teachers to check your child's understanding of classwork and keep track of their progress.
- Homework is set to help teachers understand how much your child has understood about the subject and what they can complete independently.
- As your child moves up the school, homework is based on SQA Past Paper Questions so establishing homework routines early is essential to success.



WHY YOU SHOULD GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR CHILDS HOMEWORK

- When schools and families work together, children do better.
- Children learn something well when they talk about it or explain it to someone else, so asking your child about their homework really helps them.
- Children who do homework regularly throughout their time at school benefit from the equivalent of roughly an extra year's schooling.
- Between the ages of 5 and 16, children spend only 15% of their lives in school so supporting them at home really improves their chances of success.
- Parents and families are by far the most important influences on children's lives.



WHAT'S HELPFUL TO KNOW ABOUT HOMEWORK?



- It's quality that matters, not quantity - the kind of homework your child does is often more important than the amount.
- Even if you have little time, or don't know much about the subject or level your child is studying, you can still be involved. It's not your time or ability, but a positive and encouraging attitude to your child's learning that really matters.
- Homework is for children to do, **not** for parents.

TOP TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH HOMEWORK

1. Keeping Track

- The amount of homework gradually increases as your child moves up the school - the transition between Primary School homework and Secondary School homework can come as a shock.
- Homework Planners are supplied to all S1 pupils. S2-S6 pupils are asked to keep track of their homework on a mobile device and/or personal planner. Printed planners are available on request, so if this is something your child may be interested in, ask their guidance teacher for one.
- Help your child with their planning of homework by checking their diary/asking if they received any homework that day - perhaps use a wall planner to help with this.



TOP TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH HOMEWORK

1. Keeping Track

- Encourage your child to write homework on the wall planner - can use whiteboard markers or post it's.
- Different colours could be used if you have more than one child.



WEEKLY HOMEWORK PLANNER



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY

TOP TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH HOMEWORK

2. Creating a Space for Homework

- Keep a designated homework area at home. Somewhere preferably where you have a flat surface and any distractions are avoided e.g. televisions, phones etc.
- Ensure your child has all the resources they need to complete homework - this includes a pen/pencil, rubber, ruler and a calculator. Other equipment e.g. protractors, compasses may also be required.



TOP TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH HOMEWORK



3. Setting Routines

- Help keep a routine for your child when it comes to homework.
- You might find your child wants to complete their homework as soon as they come home from school or they might want to relax and then start working later in the evening.
- Let your child decide when they want to do their homework but try and keep a regular time.
- Aim if possible for them to have at least one homework-free day a week.

TOP TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH HOMEWORK

4. Give Praise and Rewards

- Praise and encourage your child to help boost their confidence.
- Encourage your child by offering a small reward that they can choose at the end of the week if all their set homework is done. It doesn't have to be money or sweets - maybe a favourite movie, or offering to play a game or do something with them that they always enjoy.
- Teachers may also send home 'Praise Postcards' - make sure you celebrate this with your child.



TOP TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH HOMEWORK

5. Tackle Homework Early

- Most homework is issued with a deadline of one week - try to ensure your child is not working on this the night before.
- If your child has any problems with the homework and tackles it early, this will allow them time to ask you for help or advice.
- This will also allow your child to ask their class teacher for help during the lesson in-between or during a break/lunchtime.



TOP TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH HOMEWORK

6. Use all Support Available to You

- At Fraserburgh Academy several lunchtime and after-school homework clubs are on offer.
- These are a great way of getting the homework out of the way and getting help and advice on the best way to tackle it.
- Details on Help Clubs are usually in the daily newsheet read out at registration. We are looking at populating a list of these Help Clubs so this will be shared soon.
- Use the library. Library staff will be able to help your child find the info he/she needs and develop their research skills. The library offers internet access for homework, and can advise on links to useful homework websites. Use online resources to help!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

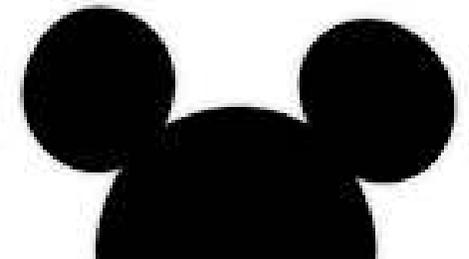
TOP TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH HOMEWORK

7. Be Motivational

- Ask about homework, assignments, quizzes and tests.
- Give encouragement, check completed homework, and make yourself available for questions and concerns.
- **Set a good example.** Do your kids ever see you diligently balancing your budget or reading a book? Kids are more likely to follow their parents' examples than their advice.
- Post an aced test or art project on the refrigerator.
- Mention academic achievements to relatives.
- Even if you are a bit out of depth when helping with homework, just showing that you are interested matters most. Often, asking children to explain what they have learned helps a great deal to reinforce their learning... even if you don't fully understand the detail.

IF YOU CAN
DREAM IT,
YOU CAN
DO IT.

- WALT DISNEY



TOP TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH HOMEWORK

8. Keeping Up to Date with the School

- Don't get stressed out by homework - if you are, your child will be too.
- Remember to talk to the school if you feel your child has too much homework, or it's not clear, or is taking them too long. Asking for feedback on how they feel your child is doing is also helpful.
- At Parent's Evening ask about their homework policies and how you can get involved.
- If there are continuing problems, you may receive an Early Intervention Letter (EIL) with a homework concern. Consider what changes need to be made in order to ensure your child engages well with homework set and remember the school is always here to help. Liaise with your child's Guidance Teacher.



HELPING WITH HOMEWORK - FEEDBACK



- Can you please complete the survey on the iPad's before you leave.
- If you have any questions, then please ask me.
- Thank you so much for your support! 😊

Together Creating
Positive Futures