

Gryffe High School

Home Learning in S1 Descriptions and Rationale

English

In S1 English, home learning is designed to help pupils build positive reading habits and develop confidence as independent readers. A key focus is personal reading, with pupils encouraged to read weekly at home and engage with a range of texts that interest and challenge them. Pupils should complete Accelerated Reader quizzes (when applicable) when they finish a text. Through reading, discussion, and short reflective tasks, pupils develop important literacy skills such as comprehension, vocabulary, analysis, and critical thinking. Establishing a strong reading culture in S1 supports progress across the curriculum and provides an important foundation for success in the senior phase and beyond.

Maths

In S1 Mathematics, pupils will receive a weekly home learning task which should be completed each evening from Monday to Thursday. These tasks review prior learning and form an important part of our assessment cycle of starters, homework and check-ups. Through regular retrieval practice in classroom starters, pupils revisit key knowledge and receive feedback and support from their teacher before applying these skills independently through home learning. Homework provides opportunities for pupils to practise key skills, consolidate their understanding and build confidence in applying mathematical concepts independently. Learning is then assessed through a check-up each week, allowing pupils to demonstrate their progress and helping teachers to identify areas for support. This consistent cycle of retrieval, practice and assessment supports long-term retention and helps pupils make steady progress throughout the course.

Science

S1 Science homework aims to build good habits by providing manageable retrieval tasks that allow pupils to demonstrate their knowledge and skills. Homework reminders will be set on Satchel One and all resources required can be found in the back of pupil booklets. Homework should take no more than 10 minutes to complete and will be allocated roughly weekly. In addition, they will complete one Topical Science task during which they will research an area of science they find personally interesting and present their findings in the form of a poster, presentation or model.

Social Subjects

Pupils will complete regular home learning tasks linked to current class topics. This will include research tasks and retrieval quizzes. Regular engagement with content will help strengthen long-term memory and support class discussion. Pupils will also be encouraged to take an active interest in current world events and opportunities to gain insight into themes related to Geography, History and Modern Studies.

RMPS

There will be two formal home learning projects across S1. Pupils will also be encouraged to remain curious about the world around them especially themes relating to Religion, Morality and Philosophy.

Music

There will be no formal homework set for S1 Music. However, pupils are encouraged to regularly engage with mymusiconline.co.uk to reinforce and consolidate the learning that takes place in class. Spending time exploring the resources and activities available on the site will help develop musical understanding, support classroom learning, and build confidence in key concepts and skills.

Modern Languages

Pupils will be set weekly vocabulary homework via Satchel One. These tasks are designed to support the consolidation of vocabulary learning from class and provide regular opportunities to revisit and practise key language. Consistent engagement with these activities will help pupils build confidence and improve their language skills over time.

PE

There will be no formal homework set for S1 PE. Pupils are encouraged to access any opportunities to remain physically active both in general terms and activity-specific when possible. Pupils are encouraged to walk, run, swim and cycle regularly to remain active whilst being encouraged to consider any activity-specific opportunities within school and/or the local community.

HFT

There will be no formal homework for S1 HFT. Pupils are encouraged to practice their cookery skills at home at any opportunity available to them. Full recipes are made available to pupils to follow from start to finish at home as well as pupils encouraged to consolidate skills learned in class when at home. For example, when pupils experience introduction to food hygiene and regular recap of this important topic, pupils are encouraged to apply practice at home while supporting with any cooking experiences possible.

Art & Design

S1 Home Learning in Art and Design provides pupils with opportunities to develop and practise skills through a range of skill-building activities. Pupils can improve their drawing, design, observation, and problem-solving abilities while building confidence in expressing their ideas visually. These termly tasks support the development of creativity, critical thinking, and independence.

Graphic Communication

In Graphic Communication, pupils will complete short monthly home learning tasks to consolidate the work they are completing in class. By completing these tasks, pupils will improve their numeracy skills, hand eye coordination and their knowledge of British Standards (BSI).

Design and Manufacture

In Design and Manufacture, pupils will complete short monthly home learning tasks to consolidate the work they are completing in class. Pupils will complete retrieval quizzes on SatchelOne which test their knowledge of hand tools, workshop machinery and materials used during the manufacture of their toy car and keying.

Drama

In S1 Drama, home learning helps pupils learn and remember important drama words and techniques. Through short activities and revision tasks, pupils will practise using drama vocabulary to talk about performances and their own work. This helps build confidence, supports learning in class, and develops skills that will be important as pupils move through the Drama course and into the senior phase.

ICT

ICT Home Learning tasks are issued termly, reinforcing learning from class through activities that develop digital literacy, online safety, and problem-solving skills. Tasks help pupils consolidate their understanding, build independence, and develop the digital skills needed for future study, employment, and everyday life.

Digital Literacy

There will be no formal homework set for S1 Digital Literacy.

PSE

There will be no formal homework set for S1 PSE.