

WEST DERBY SCHOOL



HOMEWORK



Some tips for Boys, Parents & Carers

Key Tasks for Pupils

1. Understand how 'Show My Homework' works (your form tutor will explain it to you).
2. Ask your teacher if you are not sure what to do for your homework.
3. Make sure you take home everything you need to do for your homework.
4. Ask someone you live with for help if you cannot do the task on your own.
5. Make use of the homework clubs in school and the ICT suites which are available at lunchtimes and after school.

Tips for Parents / Carers

1. Agree a routine for homework with your son. Life can be a constant 'nag' if you do not do this from the very beginning.
2. A good time for homework is after a short break when he returns home from school. Get it out of the way early so leaving the rest of evening free.
3. Agree with your child that T.V, phone calls, gaming etc, will only be possible after homework is done.
4. Many boys will say that listening to music helps them to concentrate. Often it does!
5. Be prepared to invest some time at first, until the routine is established.
6. Try to help your son to organise himself - check the 'Show My Homework' section of the school website to view his homework set, give him a quiet place to work, ensure he has pens, pencils etc.
7. Try to ensure that homework is done on the night it is set - it prevents a late panic when work builds up, and will maintain quality of work produced.
8. Encourage your son to pack his bag for the day as soon as his homework is finished.
9. It is hard for many boys to work without a structure. Keep to the rules!

10. Make sure you son always dates his homework.
11. Do not let your son struggle on if he cannot understand or complete a task - ask us for help!
12. Encourage your son to have a 'homework buddy' - someone in his set/class whom he can phone/contact if he is finding things hard.
13. Many boys will try to get away with not doing homework and your son may well be one of these boys. Be wary of excuses (I have written a list of the most used ones!) and try to ensure that, if an excuse is given, you check it and make sure that he does that homework as soon as the problem is sorted out.

Excuses for not being able to do homework:-

1. We didn't get any;
2. I don't need to do it, I did it in class;
3. We had a supply teacher;
4. It doesn't have to be in for ages;
5. I left it in school;
6. My teacher's got my book
7. My friend's got my book
8. I did it on the computer and the computer wouldn't print it out / I forgot to save it / I can't remember what file I saved it in
9. I'm going to do it with my friend in school tomorrow;
10. I'll do it in the library tomorrow.