FEEDBACK AND HOMEWORK POLICY

Rationale for this policy:
To provide teachers with clear guidelines for practice and to provide students with a consistent experience to support their learning through homework and feedback.

Research:
We are a research-informed school and as such our approach to all elements of teaching and learning is shaped by credible evidence that shows impact upon student learning.

Research shows that homework set for the sake of providing student with activity between lessons has limited if not negative impact upon student learning and progress (Hattie 2009). As a result it is counterproductive to have a set point at which all teachers set homework but rather a commitment to set meaningful homework on a regular basis to support student learning (this will be a minimum of once every 5 contact hours).

Feedback from our 2016-17 Parents survey showed parents wanted a complete overview of the homework their child has been set so they can give support at home and ensure deadlines were being met. In response, from September 2017, Show My Homework is the sole vehicle through which homework is set at Hayes School.

High quality feedback however, has been proven by research to have hugely significant effects upon learning and progress for students especially when it involves students in responding to their feedback from teachers (Sutton Trust 2012, Hattie 2009 etc.) and as such this underpins our homework and feedback policy. Feedback will be provided a minimum of once every 5 contact hours.

Feedback will be given on classwork where appropriate but this will not routinely be the case.

When Feedback is given:

- Students are expected to respond to all feedback given.
- Teacher written feedback will be in purple pen.
- Students will respond to feedback in red pen.
- Peer written feedback will be in green pen.
- Major errors or inadequacies will be consistently identified using the school SPAG marking policy (overleaf)
- Positive comments will identify strengths (e.g. WWW – what went well)
- Next steps will be identified (e.g. ATI - action to improve, T4P - target for progress, EBI – even better if, A question/series of questions) – students should be able to answer the question ‘What do you need to do to be able to improve?’
- Where appropriate there will be a clear link to assessment criteria, lifelong learning skills, grades or levels.
- DIRT time will always be given for reflection and action upon feedback (either in lessons or at home).

When Homework is set:

- It will always be set using Show My Homework website
- It will always be beneficial to student learning.
- Clear success criteria will be given to the students within the ‘task description’ section.
- Sufficient time in the lesson will be given to explain the task set
- A clear deadline for completion of homework will be noted on the subject teachers’ Show My Homework page
- An appropriate estimated completion time for tasks will be given in the ‘important information’ section to support students (and parents) in dedicating sufficient but realistic time to homework.
- Feedback will be given within 2 weeks of the deadline for completion.
- It will be acknowledged by a form of recorded feedback (peer/teacher/written summary of verbal feedback as appropriate/Show My Homework test score).