



***Homework
Information
Booklet
For Parents
2019/2020***

The purpose of this booklet is to provide information to parents/carers on homework requirements for subjects studied at Portree High School.

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Art & Design

Year Group	Homework Information
S1/S2/S3	All classes are given homework jotters. In class we set regular homework tasks which might be 15+ min observational drawings or sometimes longer homework assignments to be done over a whole term such as a sculpture assignment. These will usually relate to topics they are studying in class.
S4 – S6 National 4/5	Homework is ongoing and is used for course work – for example, for investigation sketches, taking photos, researching on the Internet.
S5/S6 National 5 Higher	Homework is ongoing and is used for course work – for example, for investigation sketches, photos, researching on the Internet. Revision homework is also set for the Art and Design written element of the exam.
All Years	Small amounts of practical work can be completed at home.

Best use of the Homework Planner – Teacher Communicating with Home

To note what homework has to be done and when it is to be completed.

To note all artwork deadlines and assessment dates – this applies mainly to certificate classes.

To note additional opportunities for artwork after school or lunchtimes.

Additional Information (equipment to use at home)

Access to the Internet (Chromebook)

A pencil, rubber and a sharpener are the only essential equipment each pupil requires. However pupils who wish to refine and develop their work at home may want to buy a range of art materials to further the scope of their work. These materials may include coloured pencils, chalk pastels, watercolour paints, acrylic paints and a selection of paintbrushes.

What Can Parents/Carers do to Help?

Use planner for communicating with teacher.

Encourage access to galleries and exhibitions.

Encourage watching creative/art programmes on TV.

Encourage creative drawing, painting and crafts at home – e.g. portrait sitting, crochet, creative doodling. Pupils often respond well to having paper and pencils easily available at home that they can use at any time for drawing.

Check homework is completed well and on time.

Drama

Year Group	Homework Information
S1 & S2	Homework will be given as required to support the learning in the classroom. Homework will be given at the end of a block of work and allow pupils to review their learning within the project.
S3	Homework will be given as required to support the learning in the classroom. It will usually take the form of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Written evaluation work ➤ Preparation of ideas for scenes ➤ Personal planning or rehearsal time ➤ Group rehearsal When group rehearsal is set pupils will have access to rehearsal space either after school or at lunchtime.
EXAMINATION COURSES	
National 4/5 S4 – S6	Homework will be given regularly and usually take the form of either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Written evaluation work ➤ Preparation of ideas for scenes ➤ Personal planning or rehearsal time ➤ Group rehearsal ➤ Design work When group rehearsal is set pupils will have access to rehearsal space either after school or at lunchtime. The intensity of rehearsal required will increase markedly prior to unit tests and examinations.
Higher Advanced Higher	Homework set will vary between the following types of task depending on the unit of study being undertaken at the time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Research ➤ Reading of set texts ➤ Performance rehearsals ➤ Essay writing ➤ Scripting/reworking of themes and concepts for performance Formal deadlines will be set for essays as appropriate. Pupils are expected to take responsibility for keeping an on-going record of rehearsals/planning sessions after each drama lesson. Tutorials and after school/lunchtime rehearsal space is available on request.

What Can Parents/Carers do to Help?

- Each week, check with the pupil if they have homework, what it is and when it is due in
- Check that it has been completed
- As we get closer to unit and final exam deadlines there will be homework help tutorials that pupils can attend. Parents should encourage pupils to make full use of these
- Visit the theatre, cinema, dance and music productions when possible and/or watch TV dramas together to help pupils talk about storylines, characterisation and acting technique
- Encourage pupils to read and listen to audio tapes or radio plays

Engineering Skills for Work

Year Group	Homework Information
5/6	Researching again as above. Revision of knowledge and understanding for unit assessments.

Best Use of the Homework Planner

As a reminder of set/return dates, communication with parents/carers

Additional Information: Chromebooks can be used for research and Google Classroom for homework/revision, preparing and writing assessments.

What Can Parents/Carers do to Help?

Encourage pupils to go over the theoretical parts of the course. This is the work which makes up the written part of their final unit assessments. This takes place throughout the year.

English

Year Group	Homework Information
S1/S2/S3	<p>The amount of homework your son/daughter will be issued will depend to an extent on which particular topic their class is undertaking at a given time. All S1, S2 and S3 pupils work on a Reading Challenge. This is ongoing throughout their first, second and third years at PHS and involves them reading a variety of books (different genres, different authors) and undertaking tasks related to their chosen book. It is therefore very important that pupils always 'have a book on the go'. Other homework will involve language work, investigations for a piece of writing or solo talk and practising solo talks. S1 also have weekly homework tasks.</p>
S4	<p>Throughout S4, your son or daughter will study English with a view to being presented to the SQA at either National 4 or National 5 level.</p> <p>Homework for S4 pupils will broadly consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Skills in Reading, Writing, Talking and Listening ➤ Production of an exam folio (National 5 only) <p>Regular reading of literary fiction and quality journalism is to be encouraged.</p>
S5/S6	<p>Depending on how your son or daughter has achieved throughout S4, they can choose to study at Higher or National 5 level. The courses begin in June and at the beginning of the course each pupil is issued with an outline of the coursework and assignment deadlines. At this level of study, it is extremely important that pupils habitually read as much as possible, particularly literary fiction and articles from broadsheet newspapers.</p>
S4/5/6	<p>In addition to producing and managing notes for class texts and undertaking revision on a regular basis, S4/5/6 are expected to prepare and research for solo talks and essays.</p>

Best use of the Homework Planner

Pupils should enter all homework assignments on the due date.

It is useful if parents/carers check pupil planners regularly and sign the appropriate page to indicate that this has been done.

REMEMBER!

For English, there is no such thing as ‘I’ve not got any homework’.

There are very useful websites to visit:

www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/education/bitesize/

www.sqa.org.uk

[http://scholar.hw.ac.uk/Resources/Live Online Sessions/](http://scholar.hw.ac.uk/Resources/Live_Online_Sessions/)

Google Classroom – for class work and homework deadlines

Finally, most important of all, **read a book! Read a broad-sheet newspaper!**

What can parents/carers do to help?

Encourage your son or daughter to read as much as they can, as often as they can and perhaps discuss with them what they have read.

Gaelic

Year Group	Homework Information	
	Gaelic	Gàidhlig
S1/S2/S3	‘Ceumannan’ course and associated online resources. Vocabulary learning tasks. Online learngaelic.net and BBC resources. Google Classroom.	Reading, Writing and Languages tasks. GM subjects homework club at lunchtime on Monday. BBC and Storlann resources. Google Classroom.
National 4/5 S4 - S6	‘Ceumannan’ course and associated online resources. Vocabulary learning tasks. Online SQA learngaelic.net and BBC resources including Bitesize. Google Classroom.	Topic based Reading and Writing tasks. Online SQA and BBC resources including Bitesize. Google Classroom.
Higher Advanced Higher	Preparation for unit tasks in Reading and Writing. Preparation of research project. Online SQA learngaelic.net and BBC resources including Bitesize and Scholar. Google Classroom.	Preparation for unit tasks in Reading and Writing. Preparation of research project. Online SQA and BBC resources including Bitesize and Làrach nam Bàrd. Google Classroom.

Best use of the Homework Planner

As a record of upcoming tasks. As a year planner of study. As a record of achievement and of targets set. As a route of communication between teacher and parents.

Additional Information (equipment to use at home)

Access to computer and Internet. Am Faclair Beag is available online but it would be useful to own a home copy of a good dictionary – TYS dictionary is currently available at around £12.

Useful websites

www.storlann.co.uk/ceumannan/index.html
www.bbc.co.uk/alba/foghlam/
www.learngaelic.net
 Ceumannan course online

What Can Parents/Carers do to Help?

Check pupil’s planner for assessment deadlines and set homework.

Graphic Communication

Year Group	Homework Information
S1/S2/S3	Verbal responses to research of course topics. Homework sheet as appropriate.
S4	Researching again as above. Revision of knowledge and understanding for final exam.
S5/S6	Specific set homework sheets to reinforce course topics for knowledge and interpretation.

Best Use of the Homework Planner

As a reminder of set/return dates, communication with parents/carers

Additional Information (equipment to use at home)

The specific software (Autocad) and practical equipment limits the homework that can be set. Chromebooks can be used for research and Google Classroom homework/revision.

What Can Parents/Carers do to Help?

Encourage pupils to go over the theoretical parts of the course. This is the work which makes up the written part of their final exam. This is especially important at prelim time and at the final SQA exam.

Home Economics

Year Group	Homework Information
S1/S2	1 piece of extended homework per term.
S3/S4	Complete appropriate written tasks. Reinforce practical skills learnt in class using recipes available on GLOW.
S5/S6	Due to the practical nature of the Hospitality course there is no formal written homework. However, pupils must reinforce practical skills learnt in class using recipes available on GLOW.

Best use of the Homework Planner

The Plan of Work for each term is issued in advance to every pupil to ensure they bring the correct equipment each week. Homework tasks are also recorded in their planner.

Additional Information (equipment to use at home)

Internet access for GLOW would be useful for downloading resources.

What Can Parents/Carers do to Help?

Check planner each night for any homework and to check if a box is required for practical lesson.

Maths

Year Group	Homework Information
S1/S2/S3	<p>Pupils will usually get at least two pieces of homework each week. These will be designed to consolidate what has been learned in class. Most homework will be shared online via Google Classroom.</p> <p>In the lead-up to a block test or class topic tests, pupils will be encouraged to undertake extra revision as well as their homework.</p>
S4/S5/S6	<p>Pupils working at levels AH, H, N5 and N4 will usually have follow-on homework most nights. Most homework will be shared online via Google Classroom.</p> <p>In the lead-up to assessments and prelims pupils are expected to undertake extra study time. We would anticipate pupils spending between 30 minutes to an hour on Maths homework/study every day, depending on what level of Maths they are studying.</p>

Best use of the Homework Planner

Pupils should note homework each day and record the dates for tests. They may also record results of tests. They should note targets at the start of each term and keep track of them.

Additional Information

It is important that ALL pupils are equipped with a scientific calculator. Access to the internet is helpful as pupils can use various websites which offer good revision materials.

Some good websites are:

www.national5maths.co.uk (This has work at **all levels** from S1-S6)

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/maths

www.sqa.org.uk (for past papers with solutions)

www.mangahigh.com (great for games and challenges)

www.hsn.uk.net (for Higher notes and examples)

www.portreehighschoolmaths.weebly.com

www.mathsworkout.co.uk username: portree password: prism91

What Can Parents/Carers do to Help?

- Check planners regularly and sign
- Encourage pupils to do homework to the best of their ability
- Ensure pupils catch up with work missed through absence. Most work is shared routinely via Google Classroom
- Strongly encourage your son/daughter to revise well for tests and prelims
- Encourage pupils to make use of support available at lunchtimes.

Modern Languages – French

Year Group	Homework Information
S1/S2/S3	Pupils are encouraged to devote short but frequent periods of time at home consolidating what they have learned in class. For example, regular learning of vocabulary and using language websites, such as <i>Linguascope</i> . In addition, all pupils may be asked to complete Reading and Writing tasks or practise pronunciation throughout the session. All homework is differentiated as appropriate.
National 4/5 S4 – S6	Pupils continue developing four main skills in S4: Reading, Listening, Writing and Talking. National 5 pupils will be assessed externally by SQA and National 4 pupils will be internally assessed throughout. With this in mind, it is imperative that pupils do the following: regularly revise vocabulary and grammar, complete tasks not finished in class, make use of resources (to firm up areas of difficulty, books available from teacher/internet), practise Talking assignments at home and re-draft Writing pieces for the due date. Homework deadlines are usually given as far in advance as possible in order to maximise potential.
Higher	At the beginning of each school term pupils are advised of the course content (both internal and external) as well as target dates and deadlines for assessments. Regular homework is issued as required and pupils are encouraged to continually build their vocabulary base with frequent revision.

Best use of the Homework Planner

Enter deadlines, target grades, tracking grades and exam dates.

Write your homework assignments on the due date.

Additional Information

Regular revision means progress. You can access language websites at home to help improve your performance in the language (for senior pupils in particular, useful material is regularly posted up on Google Classroom as and when needed). You can also read online articles and watch DVDs in French. Do not hesitate to ask your teacher for further information.

All pupils:

www.linguascope.com (see teacher for details)

Senior pupils:

<http://scholar.hw.ac.uk/scotland> (see teacher for login)

www.languagesonline.com

www.linguascope.com (see teacher for details)

www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/mafrance/

www.tf1.fr (TV channel)

www.lemonde.fr (newspapers)

www.lefigaro.fr (newspapers)

www.m6.fr (TV channel)

www.wikipedia.fr

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/bitesize

(see more detailed list on Google Classroom)

What can Parents/Carers do to help?

Encourage pupils to regularly revise vocabulary.

Check pupil's planner frequently for an indication of assignment deadlines.

Music

Year Group	Homework Information
S1/2	<p>Pupils will not be required to complete homework regularly. If they do receive homework it will be for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Project Work – completing a research task and producing a poster, powerpoint or short piece of writing ➤ Literacy – pupils may be asked to do extra work on literacy (writing music) at home. This will be related to what we are covering in class at the time ➤ Progress Diaries – all pupils will be issued with a progress diary. Each time they are assessed in class, they will write about how they have done, and their teacher will also add a comment. This will then be sent home for parents to sign and/or add a comment. These must be returned to school timeously
S3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Literacy – pupils will be given regular music literacy homework (reading and writing music). The exercises will always match what we are doing in class, so pupils are encouraged to bring their school workbooks home to use for support ➤ Practical – pupils are expected to do some practice on each of their chosen two instruments outside of class. If they do not have instruments at home, they should use the class instruments at lunch or after school
S4 - 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Literacy – pupils will be given regular music literacy homework (reading and writing music). The exercises will always match what we are doing in class, so pupils are encouraged to bring their school workbooks home to use for support ➤ Practical – pupils are expected to do a significant amount of practice on each of their chosen two instruments outside of class. If they do not have instruments at home, they should use the class instruments at lunch or after school ➤ Composing – pupils will be completing a composing folio in class, but may also need to work on this at home, depending on rate of progress

Best use of the Homework Planner – communication with the teacher from the home

- All homework to be written in as required
- To note all deadlines/assessments/exam dates, etc.
- To note times of instrumental lessons to help attend lessons on time

Additional Information (equipment to use at home)

Chosen instruments where at all possible should be accessible.

CD player for use with backing tracks, guitar, bass guitar and drumkit.

Please ensure you have adequate resources of pencils for music – pencils are necessary for literacy work.

What Can Parents/Carers do to Help?

- Use planner and progress diary for communicating with teacher
- Encourage live music attendance and interest in forming bands
- Encourage listening to a wide variety of music
- Check written homework is completed well and on time

PE

Year Group	Homework Information
Core PE S1-S6	Homework is not usually given in written form in core PE. Some short written/investigative tasks may be given to S3 pupils. All pupils are encouraged to take part in extra-curricular activities, both in school and their community. Pupils are sometimes asked to research some facts and are encouraged to watch different sporting activities.
S2/3 Leadership	Short written tasks may be given for the following week.
National 3/4/5	All pupils are encouraged to take part in extra-curricular activities to improve their performance assessment grades. Written work is given to complete classroom tasks or to revise classwork. Homework is expected to be completed on time.
S5/S6 Higher	All pupils are encouraged to take part in extra-curricular activities to improve their performance assessment grades. Written work is given to complete classroom tasks or to revise classwork. Homework is expected to be completed on time. Pupils will be expected to test, re-test and complete their folio training programme out-with the PE class.
Skills for Work	Pupils will be expected to complete 'Daily Centre Duties'. This involves tasks to be completed either just before or just after the school working day. As part of their course, pupils will work on 'client fitness' at lunchtimes/after school. Short pieces of written work will also be required. Pupils will also take on leadership roles within the extra-curricular activities in the school.
SQA Leadership	Pupils will also take on leadership roles within the extra-curricular activities in the school. Pupils will organise and run inter-house activities during tutor time/lunchtime or after school.

Best use of the Homework Planner

Certificate classwork will be available on Google Classroom.

Pupils should note in their planner practical PE lessons so that the correct kit is taken to school. The planner should be produced in all theory lessons and any homework recorded in the planner as soon as possible after practical lessons. Important dates should also be recorded, e.g. inter-house sporting events.

Parents can use the planner to record notes requesting pupils to be excused practical sessions. Staff may also use the planner to pass information about progress/work to parents and carers.

Additional Information

Internet is advisable for SQA subjects.

Other revision material can be purchased from the PE department e.g. Leckie and Leckie Revision Notes.

S1-S6 extra-curricular activities are available for all pupils to practise and improve their performance grades. Bus passes are available – pupils should check their own transport arrangements.

Revision club for theory work (Nat 3/4/5 and Higher) after Christmas: Monday 3.30 – 4.30pm. Pupils should inform staff before lunch on the Monday if they intend to attend the revision session.

High Life Highland Leaders - pupils can increase their volunteering hours with extra-curricular groups within Portree High School, local primary schools or their community.

What Can Parents/Carers do to Help?

Encourage participation in extra-curricular sports in school and in the community.

Encourage the revision of classwork and completion of homework.

When unwell/injured, pupils should bring kit and waterproofs so that they can participate as helper/referee or an alternative activity can be offered.

<http://www.sqa.org.uk>

<http://www.sptape.co.uk>

<http://www.brianmac.co.uk/>

<http://www.scottishfa.co.uk/index.cfm>

<http://www.basketballscotland.co.uk/>

<http://www.badmintonscotland.org.uk/>

Details of other websites will be passed to pupils when appropriate.

Practical Woodwork

Year Group	Homework Information
S3	Verbal responses to research of course topics. Homework sheet as appropriate.
S4/5/6	Researching again as above. Revision of knowledge and understanding for final exam.

Best Use of the Homework Planner

As a reminder of set/return dates, communication with parents/carers

Additional Information : Chromebooks can be used for research and Google classroom homework/revision.

What Can Parents/Carers do to Help?

Encourage pupils to go over the theoretical parts of the course. This is the work which makes up the written part of their final exam. This is especially important at prelim time and at the final SQA exam.

Science Department

Homework is an important part of the Science classroom. Below is a general guide for the department, followed by specific information on each subject.

Best use of the Homework Planner

- Note what homework to do and when it is due in
- Record results of tests, tasks and target grades
- Collect positive comments to share with parents
- Collect Merit stickers

What Can Parents/ Carers do to Help?

- Check Homework Planners and Google Classroom regularly for homework tasks
- Encourage pupils to go over jotter work regularly and catch up on any work missed due to absence
- Help pupils when revising for tests. You could get involved in question and answer sessions
- Order revision books and help to plan a revision schedule
- Help to ensure that homework is completed on time
- Allow time to use the Internet for work-based activities, such as research and BBC Bitesize

Science BGE

Year Group	Homework Information
S1/S2	Homework booklets are uploaded onto Google Classroom at the start of each topic and students are assigned pieces of homework from this as the class progress through the topic. Revision tasks are set before all unit and block tests.

Biology

Year Group	Homework Information
S3/S4	Homework booklets are used for each topic and regular homework is set using these. Revision for end of topic tests and Unit Assessments.
S5/S6	Each group of chapters has one set piece of homework and a multiple choice question test. Revision for end of topic tests and Unit Assessments.

Chemistry

Year Group	Homework Information
S3	Regular homework exercises to consolidate and extend learning done in class. Revision for end of topic tests.
S4-6	Regular homework exercises to consolidate and extend learning done in class. Revision for end of topic tests and Unit Assessments. Regular review of notes to secure understanding.

Physics

Year Group	Homework Information
S3-S6	Regular homework exercises to consolidate learning. Revision for end of topic tests and Unit Assessments.

Social Subjects – Geography, History, Modern Studies

Year Group	Homework Information
S1-3	<p>Pupils have homework in Social Subjects approximately once a week split between History, Geography and Modern Studies, either set or general revision on condensing notes.</p> <p>Tasks include research papers, newspaper reports, short set tasks and preparation for class assessments/end-of-unit tests in all subjects.</p> <p>For Modern Studies pupils are also expected to watch/listen to the news regularly in order to keep up with current affairs.</p>
National 4/5 S4 – S6	<p>Pupils should be completing homework at least twice weekly - either set or general revision on condensing notes.</p> <p>Preparation for short unit assessment questions, end-of-topic tests, research projects and Value Added Assignment. Ongoing revision of sections of topics for end-of-unit assessments.</p>
Higher	<p>Preparation for unit assessments, reports, essays, source analysis questions, writing up data for assignments, extended essay research/practice and exam practice questions under timed conditions.</p>
Advanced Higher	<p>Private research for dissertation at Advanced Higher level.</p>

Best use of the Homework Planner

- Planners should be used by pupils to record tasks, to record deadlines for submission of work and for the purpose of communication with parents in years S1-4
- To record assessment dates, tracking, target grades, etc.

Additional Information (equipment to use at home)

Pens, pencils, coloured pencils, ruler, rubber, calculator, Internet access, means of printing and/saving work.

What Can Parents/Carers do to Help?

Ensure pupil catches up with work missed through absence.
Check and sign planner weekly.

Technology BGE

Year Group	Homework Information
S1/2/3	Verbal responses to research of course topics. Homework sheet as appropriate.

Best Use of the Homework Planner

As a reminder of set/return dates, communication with parents/carers

Additional Information: Chromebooks can be used for research and Google classroom homework/revision, preparing and writing evaluations.

What Can Parents/Carers do to Help?

Encourage pupils to go over the theoretical parts of the course. This is the work which makes up the written part of their evaluations. This takes place throughout the year.

Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies

Year Group	Homework Information
S1/S2	Pupils will be given tasks that consolidate work covered in class and enable them to take time to articulate their ideas and opinions on the various topics.
S3/S4	Pupils will be given small research tasks that enable them to come to class the following week prepared for deeper reflection and analysis. This will allow them to complete an SQA Unit on Moral Issues.

Best use of Homework Planner

- Record assessment deadlines
- Record homework tasks

What Can Parents/Carers do to Help?

- Parents/Carers could keep a note of assessment dates and projects in order to help pupils manage their workload
- Give the pupil an opportunity to explain the area that they are studying. This will help them consolidate and articulate their ideas
- Discuss current religious, moral and philosophical issues as they arise in the media