

Home learning Policy

Purpose of Home learning

Home learning enhances student learning, improves achievement and develops students' study skills. As such, home learning is an integral part of the curriculum and requires careful planning and integration into the scheme of work of each curriculum area.

There are various reasons for setting home learning, examples of which are to:

- Consolidate and extend work covered in class or prepare for new learning activities.
- Develop research skills.
- Have further opportunity for independent work.
- Show progress and understanding.
- Further enhance their study skills e.g. planning, time management and self-discipline.
- Engage parental co-operation and support and create channels for home-school dialogue.

Management and implementation of the policy

Departments should include within departmental handbooks, brief statements of departmental home learning policy, based on whole school principles and practice.

The Lead Teacher must ensure that:

- Planned programmes of home learning are linked to the department's curriculum plan and are delivered in a manageable way.
- The whole school policy is embedded firmly in departmental provision.
- All home learning is communicated to students and parents as per the academy policy.
- Regular monitoring and review of departmental provision takes place.
- Teachers keep up to date records of assessment and home learning completed.

Class Teachers should ensure that:

- Home learning is issued, monitored and marked regularly in accordance with the academy marking policy.
- Home learning instructions are stated clearly and communicated to parents as per the academy policy.
- Students have approximately one week to complete home learning.
- Students record their home learning in their planner.
- Home learning should be differentiated appropriately.
- Staff should give feedback on the home learning within one week of the hand in day and be in line with the academy's marking policy.

The role of parent(s):

The role of parents is crucial if a student is to gain success from home learning. To reinforce its value through positive feedback will give students the confidence to persevere, work hard and reach high standards of achievement.

Parents can assist by:

- Helping their child plan their time well so that they can complete their home learning.
- Checking their student planner and support their child to plan their time
- Providing a quiet place to study, with sufficient resources (e.g. pens, pencils, paper)
- Being positive about home learning tasks and showing interest in what is being done.
- Checking the time spent on individual tasks.
- Checking presentation and content of all home learning being returned to the academy.
- Providing the academy with information about any problems which may impair the quality of home learning.

Communication

Every student at Brightstowe has a student planner. Their planner is an invaluable tool for students to help them organise their home learning. All home learning tasks are recorded in their student planner. Home learning is also to be communicated to parents via Show My Homework, an online home learning calendar accessible via the website.

Home learning expectations

Year 7 + 8

Subject	Expected time per week
English	1 hour + reading
Maths	1 hour
Science	1 hour
Languages	30 mins
History / Geography	30 mins
Art / Technology / Music / RE	30 mins every two weeks (rotated as required)

Year 7 - Students will also be expected to read at home for 20 minutes every day. This must be recorded in their reading log and signed by parents each evening.

It is expected that students completing project based, independent learning assignments over the course of a half term complete a little of their project each week with the total time spent being a minimum of 3 hours.

Years 9 - 10

There is a minimum expectation that students should have 1 hour of independent study each day to maximise their progress.

Subject	Expected time per week
English	1 hour
Maths	1 hour
Science	1 hour
Option Subjects	
Languages	30 mins
History / Geography	30 mins
Art / Technology / Music / RE / PE	30 mins

Students in Year 11 are expected to engage with a considerable amount of home learning, independent learning and revision to maximise their potential. The timings can therefore increase for students in year 11 and will vary depending on the topics being covered and the type of work being undertaken.

Non-Completion of Home learning

When home learning has not been done, without previous discussion with their class teacher, an after-school detention will be issued that day.

Parents/carers should receive electronic notice so they can make arrangements for their child to get home safely if the detention is after school.

It is important to encourage students to attend home learning detentions as this is a good opportunity to seek advice and support from the class teacher. If a student fails to attend a home learning detention then they may incur sanctions by the department.

Policy Reviewed – 22/09/16

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Assistant Principal (Excellence in Teaching)