

BEBINGTON HIGH SPORTS COLLEGE



HOMEWORK POLICY

Agreed/Reviewed by Governors – see reverse

Bebington High Sports College Homework Policy

Homework is undertaken outside the timetabled curriculum and is not usually directly supervised by the teacher. It may be completed at home, in school, in a library or elsewhere, especially if it involves research.

Homework is of benefit for the following reasons:

- it reinforces and consolidates what has been learned in lessons, affording students the opportunity to practise and perfect their learning
- it is an opportunity for the further development of students' knowledge, skills and attributes
- it prepares students for life-long learning into adulthood, by drawing on independent learning skills such as enquiry, investigation, initiative, time management and self-discipline
- it gives students the chance to undertake work not suited to ordinary lesson time and to exploit materials and sources of information not accessible in the usual teaching environment
- it strengthens home school liaison, developing the partnership between student, parent and teacher and keeping parents in touch with the nature of their child's/children's studies and methods
- it has been proven that students who regularly complete homework achieve best in assessments.

Tasks set may include:

- reading for understanding or wider reading about a particular topic or of an individual author
- drawing, for example maps or sketches
- drafting and re-drafting
- revision of key facts and figures
- writing (by hand or word processing), for example essays or poetry
- designing
- making a model
- worksheets or workbooks

- the collection or collation of items or information, possibly through the use of questionnaires or taking measurements
- a project (perhaps even web-based)

The number of tasks set will depend upon the amount of teaching time a subject has in the curriculum plan. However, on average, it is expected that the equivalent of one task per week per subject will be given, and that the deadline set will generally be in the range from a small number of days to one week, with the notable exception of coursework, in which case it is anticipated that interim deadlines will be identified.

As a minimum, depending on the demands of programmes of study at particular times of the school year, it would be expected that students should be in receipt of homework to occupy them as follows:

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|---------------|---|--|
| Years 7 & 8 | - | 1 to 1 and ½ hours per evening |
| Year 9 | - | 1 and ½ to 2 hours per evening |
| Years 10 & 11 | - | 2 to 2 and ½ hours per evening |
| Years 12 & 13 | - | 5 hours' private study for each subject studied per week |

It is the school's responsibility to:

- set regular, varied homework within the context of the needs of students and the arrangements of individual subjects
- ensure there is diagnostic and developmental feedback, whether from the teacher, a peer, the student him/herself or his/her parent
- provide access to study facilities, such as the library Learning Resource Centre, at lunchtime
- issue each student with a planner
- draw up and publish a homework timetable that takes account of teachers' work schedules, giving them sufficient opportunity for marking, and achieves as even a distribution of tasks as possible for students across the week
- inform parents in the event of a poor homework record and discuss how both the staff and the parent/s can support the child in securing the improvement needed.

It is each student's responsibility to:

- record and ensure s/he understands the work to be completed
- manage his/her time in order to meet deadlines, especially with regard to interim coursework deadlines intended to facilitate developmental feedback
- ask for help if needed

- transfer the school day and homework timetables into the planner as soon as issued

It is the responsibility of the parent to:

- check and sign the planner regularly, ensuring that deadlines are met, and to make use of it to write brief notes for the attention of staff, as necessary
- provide a suitable place for students to work at home
- ask to see completed work

This policy is to be monitored and evaluated on an ongoing basis, by means of:

- regular planner checks by Tutors, Pastoral Leaders and members of the Senior Management Team during registration time and Form Inspections
- discussion with students, parents and colleagues, at times such as council meetings and consultation evenings
- Schemes of Work
- homework sampling, to evaluate the tasks set and the quality of the outcome
- Records of Achievement and other occasions on which progress reviews are undertaken and curricular targets are set.