



**THE BULWELL  
ACADEMY**

*Creative  
Education  
Trust*

## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

March 2018

Date Ratified by Governors: 20.3.2018

Review Date: 20.3.2021





## BULWELL MISSION

# ‘Everyone Achieves’

Our mission is to provide every student with the opportunities to develop their potential to the full, be a high achiever and follow their chosen career path. Homework is an important contributor in ensuring that this happens.

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## HOMEWORK

### Definition

1. Homework is work which is set to be completed outside of the timetabled curriculum without direct staff supervision. It is regarded as a vital means of supporting students in making expected progress.
2. Our policy is to ensure that learners understand that homework does not necessarily have to be completed at home. Some students may prefer – for a number of reasons – to complete their tasks during free time before, during or at the end of the day in school.
3. Teachers will set homework that supports learning in lesson or prepares for future learning. Homework will not be set for the sake of it.
4. A principle aim is to get learners into the habit of study outside of class and develop independent study skills.
5. It will form a central component of the schemes of work in all subject areas and be given a high profile by teaching staff.

***“Homework is not an optional extra, but an essential part of a good education.”***

(1999 White Paper: Excellence in Schools)

### Purpose

Homework should enable students to:

- Consolidate work undertaken in lessons
- Provide stretch and challenge from classwork
- Reinforce skills and understanding
- Develop the skills required for independent study
- Develop research skills and access resources beyond the classroom
- Learn to manage their time and resources effectively
- Take responsibility for their own learning
- Engage parental cooperation and support



## Objectives

1. Homework, when possible, should provide a change from normal classwork, be interesting, capture imagination and be easy to manage.
2. Some homework's will be differentiated to ensure they are achievable for each student.
3. Tasks may be prescriptive or open-ended depending on the context in which they are set and the outcomes which are expected.

## Typical tasks might include:

- Research in preparation for lessons
- Consolidation of class-work
- Practice: learning by doing
- Preparation/ planning for Controlled Assessments
- Reading
- Interviews
- Drawing
- Use of ICT
- Recording
- Taking photographs

## Expectations

The amount of homework set follows national guidelines as specified below:

### Years 7 & 8

- A single homework task of approximately 25-30 minutes
- Homework will be set at least once a week for Maths and English. All other subjects will set homework at least once a fortnight.



## Year 9

- A single homework task should take approximately 35-40 minutes
- Students will be set homework at least once a week in all their subjects except for PE which will be set on a fortnightly basis.

## Years 10 & 11

- A single homework task should take approximately 50-60 minutes
- Students will be set homework at least once a week in all their subjects except for PE which will be set on a fortnightly basis.

## Homework Timetables

Each student is issued with a homework timetable at the start of the year which indicates which subjects will set homework on which night (this information is also available to parents on the school website). Teaching staff endeavour to adhere to these timetables in order to manage the workload for students although circumstances may occasionally require homework to be set on a different night in order to fit in with the programme of study or other external factors. In such situations, teachers should be more flexible in terms of deadlines to enable students to manage the competing demands of their various homework tasks from different subjects.

On other occasions, staff will need to set extended tasks which require more than one week to complete. In these instances, staff should still ask students to record the homework details in their planner for all of the weeks to which it applies so that parents are aware of the expectations. Details of homework will also be available on Class Charts and parents are able to access this through the school website.

## Post-16 Expectations

Students should expect to study up to 3 hours per night for 4 evenings of the week and at least 4 hours over the weekend in Year 12 and 6 hours in Year 13.

**Year 12:** have a maximum of 4 hours per week per subject based on studying 3 A 'Levels

**Year 13:** have a maximum of 6 hours per week per subject based on studying 3 A 'Levels

Students are expected to plan a study programme during holiday periods.

***Sixth form students should not allow commitments outside of school to have a detrimental effect on their work in school.***



## **Roles and Responsibilities**

### **Students are expected to:**

- Listen carefully to homework instructions
- Record all homework tasks including deadlines in student planner
- Ensure all homework is completed and handed in on time
- Complete all homework to the best of their ability
- Inform the teacher of any difficulties/ request support as necessary

### **Teachers Are expected to:**

- Set homework according to the published timetables
- Provide detailed and clear instructions
- Set deadlines for completed work and ensure that these are met
- Mark and return homework promptly
- Provide guidance and support as necessary
- Impose sanctions for failure to meet expectations
- Liaise with line-manager in situations of persistent failure to meet expectations

### **Heads of Department are expected to:**

- Ensure home learning is fully integrated into programmes of study
- Monitor the setting of home learning to ensure that it is in accordance with the Academy policy
- Monitor the quality of homework produced by students
- Support staff in the application of sanctions when problems arise



**Vice Principal is expected to:**

- To oversee the Academy homework policy and its application
- To provide the necessary information (e.g. homework timetables) for students, parents and staff
- To monitor and evaluate the homework policy on an annual basis to assess impact and present a report to governors

**Parents are expected to:**

- Endeavour to provide somewhere to work and basics e.g. pen, pencil ruler and rubber
- Reinforce the importance of homework and encourage hard work
- Check and sign student planners to monitor the homework being set
- Check work is completed to a good standard
- Offer praise and encouragement wherever possible