

Policy Statement for Homework

Written September 2014 – Review date September 2024

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At BCS we aim to ensure that all students can make optimal progress according to their God-given abilities and potential by developing study skills and positive study habits away from the classroom.
- 1.2 The Headteacher has ultimate responsibility for ensuring that good practices in homework are adhered to. The responsibility for the outworking of this policy will be shared collectively by the Senior Leadership Team. There is a professional expectation upon all staff who take responsibility for teaching children to adhere to this policy. This applies to the class or subject teacher.

2.0 Aims:

- to help students develop personal studies skills and habits to enhance their learning away from the classroom.
- to consolidate learning achieved in the classroom
- to devise **adapted** learning activities to extend students' learning according to ability and interest
- to encourage students to take responsibility to initiate their own study as they develop the habits to become successful lifelong learners

3.0 Guidelines: In Primary:

Year 1 to 4 (half an hour a day)

- 3.1 **Ten minutes Reading at home** with an adult every day - this may be reading to an adult, or listening to an adult read, or a combination of both. Reading is given high importance and encouraged. Merits will be given to those who read at home every day of the week. This continues into Year 4, and parents are encouraged to talk about the book with their children.
- 3.2 **Spelling** - each week children will receive spellings to study. These are based on the Twinkl year group spelling lists, and content is determined through half termly assessments. These will be taught in school and should be reinforced at home
- 3.3 **Maths** - Each week Maths tasks will be given to Y3 + Y4 to consolidate skills being taught in class.
- 3.4 **Phonics** - **Given each Friday to consolidate learning**
- 3.5 Occasionally children will be given a home learning task to complete, such as a project **or where it is requested by parents.**

4.0 Guidelines: In Secondary:

4.1 Middle school. –

- Homework is given in Maths, English and Spanish in Years 5&6
- Homework amounts to about an hour a week and students are given a week to do the homework.
- Homework can be given in any subject in Years 7&8 and students are given at least three nights to complete the tasks.
- All Homework tasks are put on google classroom, even if the homework is not to be done on google classroom. This is so that parents are informed.
- **AP students in mainstream classes** in Middle school - Homework will be carefully monitored and will either be supervised by LSA's in catch up periods in school, or some provision is made for help in the after school study centre Monday to Wednesdays. Some homework will be done at home and supervised by parents.
- Homework levels and amounts of homework is monitored carefully for students with autism and we seek to strike a successful and achievable balance, with the likelihood that it is on a bespoke basis.
- For most students, homework not in on a deadline results in a Detention, details are logged on the MIS, and students are given the opportunity to do the homework in a 30 minute lunchtime detention if it is appropriate.

- 4.2 In Years 9,10 & 11, homework is set when appropriate to develop or consolidate learning, with an expectation of an hour to an hour and a half every 4 teaching lessons.

- Homework tasks to be given a deadline of a minimum of three working days, counting the weekend as one day and up to a week to be completed.
- Homework is typically 6-10 hours a week, though this higher amount will apply to students who opt for 10 GCSE's.
- Non GCSE course will not normally involve homework being given.
- Students in Year 11 will be encouraged to set a revision timetable and their exam preparation may well include more than 10 hours work per week away from school in this final year.

4.3 Homework tasks should be either:

- to consolidate learning and skills
- to extend learning according to ability through differentiated tasks
- to stimulate learning through open ended research tasks
- revision tasks to assist exam preparation or for tests/quizzes in class
- to develop revision strategies in preparation for GCSE's in Y11 and beyond

4.4 Students in Oak and Acorn Class will not normally be given homework.

4.5 Students in the **Primary Autism Provision** will be given lists of spellings and simple maths tasks and, on a voluntary basis, agreed with the family, work on the IDL programme, which supports the development of spelling, punctuation and grammar.

4.6 If students do not give a reasonable explanation as to why they have not completed tasks, or it has been done to a substandard level, they will be given a lunchtime detention where the reason for non-completion can be discussed with a senior member of staff, followed by some time spent in the lunch time study centre to complete work. Parents could be contacted to discuss this if it continues

4.7 Students and their families will be made aware of the study centre facility, which is an opportunity for Students Year 5-11 to stay in school in a supervised period from 3:30 - 4:30, where students can do homework with access to the internet and their google classroom and a teacher to assist them in their work.


4.8 The study centre is open Monday to **Thursday** between 3:30 - 4:30, which gives students access to a potential **4** hours per week.

4.9 Teachers can request students attend the study centre if they are not completing a minimum amount of work according to their ability within lessons.

4.10 Parents are made aware of their son or daughter's homework through posts on google classroom. Staff should set up two google classrooms, one for classwork and another specifically for homework. Parents should be invited to view the homework google classroom so that they can be aware of and support their child's homework.

5.0 **Review**

5.1 The policy was written in 2014 and will be reviewed **bi-annually**. The latest review was completed in September 202**2**.

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| Formally agreed through SLT compliance: | 29th September 2022 |
| Signed Jane Prothero – Head Teacher |  |
| Review Date: | September 2024 |

Appendix 1: Advice for parents

Parental involvement and interest in their children's learning is beneficial. Bradford Christian School encourages parents to take an active interest in their child's home learning. These are some of the factors to consider in supporting your child's learning at home:

- Parents are encouraged to take an interest in their children's learning in the primary years. This will mainly be in the form of word study, maths practice and reading. Our whole school results from standardised tests have shown that those children who read regularly with an adult make significantly more progress.
- Parents will need to consider how much they want to become involved in their children's home learning, either supporting their children's learning interests at home; initiating or supporting learning unrelated to school based work, as well as supporting homework tasks set by the school.
- Some parents will have the time and interest to help their children with their homework, others will see their role as encouraging their children to become independent, autonomous learners. Try to strike a balance and maintain a balance as your children get older and more independent.
- Parents will also need to decide how proactive they are going to be in eliminating distractions in their children's lives concerning developing good homework habits.
- Parents will also need to ensure a balance between 'work, rest and play' so that their children have a balance and healthy homelife away from school. (The school acknowledges that there are many other legitimate and helpful things that children and their families can do away from school.)

Websites which provide helpful information include;

<https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/homework.html>

<https://www.familyeducation.com/school-learning/helping-homework>

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/helping_with_exams

<https://revisionapp.co.uk/gcse-revision-essential-guide-parents>

If at any time homework becomes a problem for you and your child, please make an appointment to see your child's teacher.