

Policy Adopted on: September 2020

Date of Review: September 2021

Homework Policy

Rationale

Homework is work that is set to be completed outside the timetabled curriculum. It contains an element of independent study in that it is not usually directly supervised by a teacher. All staff at The Boulevard Academy are determined that every student succeeds and this policy aims to assist with this endeavour.

Homework is important in raising student achievement. Not all homework is done at home; in fact, for some pupils who find it hard to work at home, or for some tasks that may require resources (books, software) more readily available at school, it is necessary or desirable to carry out the task at school. Areas within the school will therefore be designated for the completion of homework during an afterschool provision.

Aims

Homework enables pupils to:

- Consolidate and extend work covered in class or prepare for new learning activities
- Access resources not available in the classroom
- Develop research skills
- Have an opportunity for independent work
- Show progress and understanding
- Provide feedback in the evaluation of teaching
- To enhance their study skills eg. Time management and self-discipline
- Engage parental co-operation and support
- Create channels for home school dialogue

What is Show My Homework?

Show My Homework is a simple homework calendar the school will be using to ensure homework is set and communicated with parents across the school. Teachers can use it to set homework quickly and ensure the learners and parents always have the information they need about homework available via the Web, Mobile and Tablet devices. This system replaces the traditional homework planner, and ensures that teachers, parents and students all know what has been set and when it is due.

How can homework be accessed?

A personalised homework calendar is available for all users including students and parents. Once you login, students can only see their own homework calendar.

Expectations: How much and by whom?

The following timetable sets out the days each faculty will set their homework online and which day the deadline ends. All students are expected to complete wider reading for a minimum of 3 times per week for 20 minutes (books may be borrowed from the academy library).

Homework Timetable

Key Stage	Subject	Frequency Set	Format	Day set	Deadline	Time
KS3	English	Fortnightly & Spelling test fortnightly	Pick and Mix grid	Tuesday	Monday	1 Hour
	Maths	weekly	MyMaths	Tuesday	Monday	30 mins
	Science	Fortnightly	Project/consolidation and retrieval task	Wednesday	Tuesday	1 Hour
	History	Fortnightly	Projects, worksheets, consolidation/retrieval	Thursday	Wednesday	1 Hour
	Geography	Fortnightly	Worksheet, spelling and comprehension	Thursday	Wednesday	1 Hour
	MFL	Weekly	Consolidation and retrieval task	Friday	Thursday	30 mins
	Business and Enterprise	Three weekly	Project	Monday Week 1	Monday of the final week	1 Hour
	Computer Science/Media	Three weekly	Project	Monday Week 1	Monday of the final week	1 Hour
	Art	Three weekly	Creative/research project	Monday Week 1	Monday of the final week	1 Hour
	Music	Three Weekly	Listening task	Monday Week 1	Monday of the final week	1 Hour

Key Stage	Subject	Frequency Set	Format	Day set	Deadline	Time
KS4	English	Weekly	Research task and SMH recall quiz	Tuesday	Monday	1 Hour
	Maths	Weekly	Hegarty/MyMaths	Tuesday	Monday	1 Hour
	Science	Weekly	Varied- tests, past papers, research projects	Tuesday	Monday	1 Hour
	History	Weekly	Exam questions/recall tasks	Wednesday	Tuesday	30 mins

Geography	Weekly	Exam questions/recall tasks	Wednesday	Tuesday	30 mins
Re	Weekly	Exam questions/recall tasks	Wednesday	Tuesday	30 mins
Spanish	Weekly	Past papers, ALL-IN	Wednesday	Tuesday	30 mins
Business Studies	Weekly	Tests, past papers, reading, research tasks	Thursday	Wednesday	30 mins
Computer Science	Weekly	Exam questions	Thursday	Wednesday	30 mins
Media Studies	Weekly	Exam questions	Thursday	Wednesday	30 mins
Art	Weekly	Portfolio work	Friday	Thursday	30 mins
Photography	Weekly	Portfolio work, research, spelling tests, worksheets.	Friday	Thursday	30 mins
Drama	Weekly	Project Based	Friday	Thursday	30 mins
Music	Weekly	Assignment Based	Friday	Thursday	30 mins
Btec PE	Weekly	Assignment Based	Friday	Thursday	30 mins

Roles and Responsibilities

It is the role of the pupil:

- To listen to homework instructions in class.
- To download the Apple or Android app if they have a smart phone to see their homework.
- To ensure that homework is completed and handed in to meet the deadline.
- To attempt all work and give their best.
- To inform the class teacher of any difficulties before the deadline and seek support if they are struggling

If homework is not handed in by the deadline, pupils will be required to attend an afterschool homework club detention in order to complete the work. The homework club detention will take place the same week as the deadline. Parents will be informed of this by text message or telephone call.

It is the role of the form tutor:

- To support pupils with completing homework.
- To check students know where to access homework.

It is the role of the class teacher:

- To ensure that homework is set on Show My Homework for all classes.
- To set homework according to The Boulevard Academy's Homework Policy.
- To give full and comprehensive instructions.
- To ensure that the academy's homework deadlines are met.

- To mark and return all homework promptly as per The Boulevard Academy's Homework Policy.
- To provide help and support.
- To monitor student submissions and inform the HOD if a student has not met a homework deadline.

It is the role of the Head of Faculty/ Head of Subject:

- To quality assure the homework set.
- To monitor student submissions.
- To provide rewards to students who consistently do their homework.
- To set after school Homework Club detentions if students do not submit homework by the deadline.
- To highlight learners that may need support and provide any necessary provisions.
- To report weekly to the member of ELT in charge of homework detailing who has received a reward for their homework and who has received a detention.
- To discuss homework in dept. meetings with a focus on quality assurance and student participation.

The role of ELT member responsible for homework:

- To provide staff, pupils and parents with the necessary homework documentation.
- To monitor and evaluate the school homework policy.

The role of parents/carers:

The role of the parent is crucial if a child is to gain success from homework. Reinforcing its value through positive feedback will give students confidence to work hard and reach high standards of achievement. Parents can assist by:

- Providing a quiet place to work, which is well lit.
- Negotiation with the student when homework is to be done as a student's free time is important too.
- Checking the time spent on individual tasks.
- Ensuring that outside clubs/ activities do not hamper a child's quality of work
- Checking presentation and content of all homework being returned to school.
- Monitoring the Show My Homework site with regards to the setting and completion of the homework.
- Providing the school with information about any problems through contacting the class teacher directly.

How will homework be marked?

The Boulevard Academy is focused on reducing teacher workload and as such will not require detailed diagnostic marking of every piece of homework.

- Homework will either be given a grade from 1-4 (1 = Outstanding 2 = Good 3 = Satisfactory 4 = Inadequate), a percentage or a written comment.
- Where appropriate, homework can form part of the self-assessed and peer-assessed work that is required by the Marking Policy.
- Where appropriate, homework can form part of the diagnostic marking that is required by the Marking Policy.
- Every possibility should be taken to provide homework that can be automatically graded through a VLE programme, including Show My Homework.

Frequently asked questions:

What if a student is off school the day that the homework is set?

All homework is set online on the specified days on the timetable, therefore students are required to complete the homework. If a student is off for more than three or more days in one week, then they need to speak with the subject teacher to arrange a deadline extension if they require it.

What if a student does not have a laptop?

We have after school Homework clubs where students can use laptops to complete their homework. Paper resources can be provided in exceptional circumstances- please discuss this with your form tutor in the first instance.