

Date of review: July 2021

Date of next review: July 2022

Responsible Person: Lead of Teaching and Learning

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 e.g. Time management and self-discipline
- Engage parental co-operation and support
- Create channels for home school dialogue

How will homework be set?

Homework will be set through the homework application for Class Charts. Class Charts offers a simple homework calendar that 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 has been provided as guidance for the amount of time and frequency that homework is set but it is important to remember that it is quality of the work completed rather than

the quantity. All students are expected to complete wider reading a minimum of 3 times per week for 20 minutes (books may be borrowed from the academy library). Reading will be monitored by parents and not directly supervised by teachers. Literacy will continue to be promoted throughout the curriculum and reading for pleasure will be supported in all subject areas and through the DEAR approach (Drop Everything And Read).

Homework Timetable

| Key Stage 3 | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Once per week | English | For 15 minutes to 45 minutes |
| | Maths | |
| | Science | |
| Once every two weeks | Languages | For 15 minutes to 45 minutes |
| | History | |
| | Geography | |
| Once every three weeks | Art | For 15 minutes to 45 minutes |
| | Digital Studies | |
| | Music | |

Below is a suggested timetable for when a student should aim to complete their homework across a week. Teachers at the Boulevard Academy have taken this timetable into account when setting work, so it is advisable that students also follow this schedule:

| Day | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| KS3 Suggested Homework focus | Science/ Art | History/ Geography/ MFL | Maths/ Computer Science | English/ Music | - |

| Key Stage 4 | | |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Once per week | English | For 15 minutes to 1 Hour |
| | Maths | |
| | Science | |
| | Languages | For 15 minutes to 30 minutes |
| | History | |
| | Geography | |
| | Art | |
| | Computer Science | |
| | Media Studies | |
| | Music | |
| | Business Studies | |
| | Photography | |

Below is a suggested timetable for when a student should aim to complete their homework across a week. Teachers at the Boulevard Academy have taken this timetable into account when setting work, so it is advisable that students also follow this schedule:

| Day | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---|----------------|--------|
| KS4 Suggested Homework focus | History/ Geography/ MFL | Business Studies/ Computer Science/ Media Studies | Science/ Art/ Photography/ Drama/ Music | Maths/ English | - |

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 set by the teacher, pupils will be required to attend a lunchtime/ afterschool detention in order to complete the work. If the detention is scheduled to take place after school, parents will be informed by either text message/ MyEd 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 homework is set on Class Charts 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.
- To produce and analyse weekly homework reports to ensure homework is being set across the Academy and to report these to members of leadership.
- To support and provide intervention for any department not meeting the requirements of the homework policy.
- To seek further support/ intervention from the Senior Leadership team if no improvement occurs over a half term for core subjects and term for non-core subjects.

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 Class Charts site/ app 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.

Frequently asked questions:

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

All homework is set online, therefore students who were absent when the homework was set, are still 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?

The Boulevard Academy intends to support any student who does not have necessary ICT equipment at home. If a household does not have ICT equipment, then parents/ carers are encouraged to contact

the Academy as soon as possible to arrange measures to support their child in accessing learning from home. Paper resources can be provided in exceptional circumstances- please discuss this with your form tutor in the first instance.