

Home Learning Policy 2012

Home learning is vital if our students are to become truly independent learners and therefore we will only set tasks that are valuable to their success.

Principles:

- all home learning is set to ensure that learners reach their full potential.
- home learning is integral to the learning process, so is only set if it promotes learning
- all home learning is marked by staff in a way that informs the learner how to make progress
- there is a recognition that deadlines need to give students and teachers sufficient time to manage their workload.

As a school we will:	As learners we will:	As parents we will:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• monitor and track home learning completion by checking learner's planners and cross referencing to teacher records.• provide learning activities on the school's VLE.• provide parents with a guide line as to how long students should spend on each activity set.• set responsible deadlines• ensure students have recorded our home learning activities in their planners.• provide facilities in school for students to complete home learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• have an understanding that home learning provides us the opportunity to reach our full potential• record home learning carefully in our planners• show our planners to our parents and have our planners signed weekly.• meet the deadlines set.• ensure that we catch up on home learning set if we are absent.• take pride in our home learning activities and spend the recommended time set on each task.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• support our child's home learning.• sign and check our child's planners.• engage in learning conversations with our child.• support staff with the completion of home learning.• provide a reasonable place where learners can work or encourage them to make use of the school's facilities.• encourage learners to use the VLE to access resources and materials.

How

- some faculties will set “extended project” home learning tasks.
- each project will need a clear written structure with staging posts along the way in order to guide the learners and maintain rigor.
- projects will be set half termly within each curriculum area and learners would be expected to work on each for 3 weeks.
- many faculties utilise the VLE www.jws.bham.sch.uk to provide and mark home learning exercises and resources useful to independent learning and research
- some faculties believe the weekly set home learning best suits the style of learning that takes place within their subjects.i.e MFL revision for tests, Maths short exercises or using mymaths programme.
- it complements the frequent short, sharp testing that takes place within their subject areas.
- it better promotes the “learn it, practice it, revisit it” nature of their subjects.
- school to provide opportunities for learner to complete home learning tasks in a Home Learning Club in school every night in the Study Centre with the TAs.

When

- Years 7 & 8 receive a home learning timetable in September and March. This outlines all of their subjects and informs them of a topic they are studying if they wish to do some independent research to further their understanding.
- Year 9, 10 & 11 receive a variety of activities relating to the GCSE/BTEC specifications being studied. This will include: coursework, controlled assessment preparation, revision for exams and completion of past papers.

	Time to be spent on home learning per week per subject	
	Core Curriculum Areas	Non-Core Curriculum Areas
Year 7	30mins	30mins
Year 8	45mins	30mins
Year 9	60mins	30mins
Year 10	60-120mins	60mins
Year 11	60-120mins	60mins

Rewards

There are a variety of ways in which learners will be rewarded for home learning activities:

- Verbal praise
- TRICs
- praise postcards
- letters home for consistently good home learning
- home learning award.

Staff will regularly use this as an incentive to promote learning outside of the classroom.

Sanctions

- any 2 home learning tasks not completed in a half term – central detention followed by a phone call from the subject teacher.
- a half termly project set and is not completed – central detention.
- At each data entry point staff will enter a number for ACW on eportal which ACs will monitor and track attitude to home learning , issuing home learning reports where necessary.