

## Homework Policy July 2021

The purpose of homework at Abbot Beyne School is to promote deep and independent learning and to extend learning in lessons. Learning is the long-term retention of knowledge and the ability to transfer it to new contexts. As such, homework should support learning.

Homework tasks should:

- Require students to revise and consolidate previously taught knowledge
- Require students to practise new skills using that knowledge
- Require students to prepare for the learning that will take place the following lesson
- Encourage students to develop the practice of independent learning
- Develop perseverance, self-discipline and the ability to organise unsupervised study
- Open up areas of study and make possible the use of materials and sources of information that are not accessible in the classroom, promoting research skills

Individual teachers will specify how work is submitted. Our aim is to ensure ALL students engage in useful and meaningful activities outside the classroom. We ask parents to support us in seeing that homework is done conscientiously and in the best possible conditions.

### **Staff Guidance on Homework Tasks**

All homework instructions will be set in Showbie on the school iPad and should include:

- The date the homework is due
- Explanation of the homework task
- Resources needed to complete the task
- Support and extension materials should also be available as appropriate
- Details of how the work will be evidenced and/or submitted to the teacher

Homework will be set in the following format on Showbie - Homework - <title of task>

Rewards, linked to our House Point System, will be given for high quality completion of homework. **Students should receive homework every lesson** (although for subjects with two lessons per week this can be combined in to one homework) along the following times:

Key Stage 3 - 20 minutes per homework

Key Stage 4 - 30 minutes per homework

### **Key Stage 3 homework should consist of one of the following only:**

- Revision of key terms concepts (from knowledge organiser) in preparation for low stakes testing the following lesson
- Research / reading in preparation for the following lesson
- Online assessment activities such as hegarty/tassomai/google forms to provide the teacher with information about student understanding.

Consequently, teachers should be prepared to and plan for teaching students methods of revision and research to facilitate such homework. Significantly, teachers should not be setting any homework which requires marking. Low stakes quizzing can be facilitated by Socrative, for example, which auto-marks work.

### **Key Stage 4 & Key Stage 5 homework**

This should follow the same pattern as Key Stage 3 homework. However, given the nature of GCSE, BTEC and A-Level courses, teachers may wish to set exam practice questions or extended pieces of homework linked to the exam curriculum. Feedback of some form would be expected in this case. Similarly, coursework may need to be worked on as homework for examination subjects.

### **Study support facilities within school**

Where it is particularly difficult to provide a suitable place to work at home, it may be more appropriate for the facilities at school to be used as a starting point. During the school day all students can use the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) to assist with homework. Most importantly, students should discuss problems with homework with subject teachers, parents and Form Tutors well before deadline dates. The LRC is open until 4pm every day to help students manage their homework.

It is expected that Year 7 students undertake at least one period of after school homework per week in the LRC if they are not taking part in an enrichment activity that week.

### **Guideline strategies for homework monitoring**

1. Students should:

- Complete all homework to the best of their ability
- Use Showbie to check homework instructions and due dates.

2. Subject teachers should:

- Record missing or incomplete homework in Bromcom. Follow departmental policy with regard to sanctions in cases of incomplete work.
- Refer persistent problems to the Subject Leader; subsequent action may involve contacting parents

3. Form Tutors should:

- Use Bromcom to monitor homework and refer general problems to the Head of Year

4. Head of Year should:

- Discuss issues with students and inform parents if necessary

5. Directors of Learning/Subject leads should:

- Monitor the setting of homework to ensure that it complies with the above policy

6. Assistant Headteacher should:

- Monitor the setting of homework across faculties through the SLM meeting structure