

Homework Policy July 2023

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

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 according to the following format**

Year 7

Maths and English - three homeworks set per week totalling 60 minutes

Science - two homeworks per week totalling 40 minutes

French - one or two homeworks per week (depending on amount of French studied) totalling 20 or 40 minutes

Humanities - one homework per week totalling 20 minutes once Onward Together begins the humanities units

Year 8 and Year 9

Maths and English - three homeworks set per week totalling 60 minutes

Science - two homeworks per week totalling 40 minutes

French - one or two homeworks per week (depending on amount of French studied) totalling 20 or 40 minutes

History and Geography - one homework per week totalling 20 minutes

All other subjects - one homework per fortnight totalling 20 minutes.

Year 10

Maths and English - 80 minutes worth of homework per week

Science - 60 minutes worth of homework per week

Options - 40 minutes worth of homework per week per subject

Year 11

Maths and English - 80 minutes worth of homework per week

Science - 90 minutes worth of homework per week

Options - 40 minutes worth of homework per week per subject

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

- Knowledge organiser revision using the school prescribed method of 'look / cover / write / check' (all subjects will use this as their primary homework task)
- iPad apps such as Bedrock for English or Sparks for Maths

Consequently, teachers should not be setting any homework which requires marking. The checking of homework completion is done at the start of the lesson and negative points for non-completion are awarded. The checking of learning of key knowledge is done through the lesson planning for that (and subsequent) lessons.

Key Stage 4 homework

Year 10 subjects must use 20 minutes per week of their allocated homework time for knowledge organiser revision

Year 11 subjects may choose to set knowledge organiser based-revision alongside other tasks.

Key Stage 5 homework / Supervised study work

Students should receive the equivalent of 75 minutes work for every lesson that they are taught. This is to be completed in study periods in school or as homework.

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. 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 school 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

Non-completion of homework

The non-completion of homework or not completing homework to a satisfactory standard will usually lead to a detention. Whilst we recognise in some cases there will be extenuating circumstances for the non-completion of homework, these should be rare and few and far between. We would always ask that parents contact the school if there is a genuine reason for non-completion of homework. Academic research shows the importance of homework and the emphasis it has on raising achievement. As part of our iPad strategy, all work from lessons and all homework is on Showbie. In line with government policy and reducing lost learning, we would expect all students when they are absent to keep up to date with their school work, including homework. Therefore, we ask all students who are in a lesson to ensure that they have completed their homework by the due date, even if they are absent after this lesson or on the day the homework is set for. We would also aim for students who are absent from a lesson when homework is set to complete the homework, however we recognise that sometimes this will not be possible. However, all resources are on Showbie for the lesson to ensure students do not fall behind if they are absent from school and we would request they keep up to date with their learning.

The school is changing the way we do homework. In the vast majority of cases homework will now be through knowledge organisers and in knowledge organiser books. There is a separate document on the completion of knowledge organisers. This will be explained very clearly to students and examples given. The sanctions are changing for non-completion of homework to the following

1st or 2nd time in a block - Warning and negative points

3rd to 5th time in a block - 30 minute detention and negative point

6th - 9th time in a block - 45 minute detention, negative point and parent contact

10 and over - 60 minute detention, negative point and parent contact