



HOMEWORK POLICY

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The Equality Act 2010 requires public bodies, in carrying out their functions, to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act*
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it*
- Foster good relations across all characteristics – between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.*

In the development of this policy due regard has been given to achieving these objectives.

Show My HomeWork (SMHW)

All students at Beacon Academy are expected to complete homework on a regular basis. Homework will be set on the internet site Show My Homework. This will be used by teachers to record **ALL** homework.

Homework Quality, Frequency and Recommended Time

Homework will be set on a **regular** basis. In core subjects (Maths, English and Science) homework will be set on a weekly basis i.e. a minimum of one piece of homework per week will be set. In all other academic subjects, homework will be set on a fortnightly basis. Subjects that will set sporadic/no homework will include Performing Arts and Physical Education. In Project, students will be expected to complete one piece of Maths and one piece of English homework per week.

There will inevitably be variation in the time it takes different students to complete work. However, as a guide, teachers expect that their homework tasks should be able to be completed to a good standard in approximately 30-40 minutes.

The homework should provide an appropriate challenge for each learner and be high quality in support of the teaching and learning completed or to be completed in lessons. Each teacher will be responsible for the homework that they set. Some subjects may choose to set extended homework projects, requiring a number of hours of homework to complete. This will provide students with an extended period to complete the homework set instead of having a weekly deadline. This should also be recorded on Show My Homework.

In support of the development of literacy across the Academy, the English department also have an expectation that all Year 7 and 8 should be reading a book for pleasure at home (either from the Library / public library / a book from home) for at least 1 hour a week outside school.

Why is homework set?

The **purpose of setting homework** is to:

1. Provide opportunities for independent work so that students can develop the skills, confidence and motivation to study effectively by themselves;
2. Help students to develop the habit and skills of independent study, enabling students to recognise the links between good study habits and higher standards of achievement;
3. Check that all students have understood their classwork;
4. Consolidate or extend work previously covered in lessons, by reinforcing skills and understanding;
5. Enable work to be done that is less suited to a classroom lesson;

6. Prepare for work which is going to be done in future lessons;
7. Manage particular demands e.g. GCSE coursework;
8. Sustain the involvement of parents/carers in the management of students' learning, and keep them informed about their child's work.
9. Enable students to review and evaluate the work they have completed and set targets for the future.

What sort of tasks will be set?

Subjects teach different skills, knowledge and ideas and this calls for a variety of approaches which will be left at the discretion of the class teacher.

Homework tasks could include:

- Answering questions;
- Completion of written work started in class:
- Writing or drafting essays and reports;
- Planning exercises
- Investigation and research;
- Evaluation tasks
- Library work/interviews;
- Discussion with adults / family / friends about various issues
- Reading;
- Designing/drawing/modelling;
- Projects;
- Coursework:
- Revision;
- Learning exercises
- Memorising information e.g. vocabulary;
- ICT.

How will the setting and checking of homework be administered?

Teachers are expected to allow sufficient time in the lesson to explain the homework, give the task instructions and inform students of the submission date. Teachers are responsible for checking that homework is completed and recording this in the gradebook on SMHW.

It is the responsibility of each subject teacher:

- To set homework in accordance with this policy.

- To ensure that the homework is carefully considered to provide appropriate challenge for all students, particularly those with special educational needs;
- To give adequate advice on the completion of homework including time to be spent on it;
- To ensure that students are given adequate opportunity to record homework if necessary;
- To mark and return the work promptly, in line with academy and departmental assessment policies;
- To identify homework with the HOMEWORK stamp wherever it occurs in books;
- To offer appropriate feedback;
- To take appropriate action if the homework is not completed without good reason;
- To communicate with parents/carers via the student planner if there are any concerns.

It is the responsibility of the Senior Leader:

- To ensure that all staff know and understand the Academy's policy on homework;
- To monitor the setting of homework;
- To take appropriate action if homework is not set according to the academy's expectations.
- To advise students on appropriate strategies for managing homework;
- To take appropriate action if it is perceived that homework is not being set by the teacher according to Show My Homework data, or not being completed by the students;
- To report to the Headteacher if any action taken fails to resolve the issues.

It is the responsibility of the student:

- To ensure that homework is given sufficient time and effort, and to note the time spent on it;
- To ensure that the work is completed;
- To ensure that it is their own work;
- To ensure that it is completed and handed in on time.

It is the responsibility of the parent/carer:

- To uphold the Academy's homework policy, and reiterate to their children the value of homework (particularly as the child gets older);
- To provide suitable facilities and such organisational support as is necessary for the work to be done, or to inform academy if such support is problematic;
- To help to ensure that their children meet deadlines;
- To provide appropriate help, encouragement and advice, but not to do it for them;
- To monitor the provision and completion of homework;

- To communicate with the Academy if they have any concerns about homework.

What happens if problems arise?

- If students have difficulty with homework they can ask for some help from parents/carers or older brothers or sisters.
- If students are unclear about a homework task it is important they seek help and advice from their teacher as soon as possible.
- If parents/carers have concerns about homework they can either write a comment in their child's planner or contact the Form Tutor or Learning Mentors.
- Parents/carers will be contacted via text to notify parent/ carers of non-completion of homework.
- If the problem persists and students are either not completing homework satisfactorily or not handing it in on time, classroom interventions will be put in place to support the student in the completion of homework.

The Governing Body recognises that there may be circumstances in which it is difficult to set homework (e.g. when the class teacher is unexpectedly absent), but in such circumstances every effort should be made to do so.