

# Homework Policy

## Contents

1. Aim .....	2
2. Purpose .....	2
3. Parent .....	2
4. ARBOR.....	3
5. Timing.....	3
Homework by department .....	3
6. Consequences for not doing homework.....	3.

## 1. Aim

The purpose of homework is to enhance pupil learning and therefore promote academic achievement.

In particular homework will:

- provide more time for study, allowing pupils to make more rapid academic progress;
- encourage pupils to study on their own and so develop as independent learners;
- allow parents to become involved in the education of their children.

## 2. Purpose

The reason a teacher will set a particular homework will vary but will include:

- consolidating and reinforcing skills and understanding, developed at school;
- practice – learning by doing;
- learning and memorising factual knowledge;
- extending school learning, for example through additional reading;
- managing particular demands, such as coursework assignments;
- encouraging pupils to develop the skills and motivation needed to study on their own as independent learners;
- developing research and practical skills;
- providing opportunities for private reading, study or research;
- doing work not suited to a classroom situation;
- providing opportunities for stretch and challenge;
- developing self-discipline.

## 3. Parent

St Benedict's believes that education is a partnership between home and school, and that parents have their own responsibilities. Parents are encouraged to support pupils with their homework. Such interest and support will always enhance the child's learning.

Parents are requested to:

- Provide a quiet, suitable place where pupils can do their homework;
- Make it clear to pupils that they value homework and support the school policy;
- Take an interest in the homework, encourage pupils and praise them when work is complete;
- Expect and check that deadlines are to be met;
- Monitor progress by checking exercise books and praising good work;
- Check students homework schedule on ARBOR at least once per week;
- Contact the school if there are particular difficulties
- Support the school in the appropriate use of sanctions.

## 4. ARBOR

Teachers use ARBOR to set homework for students. Parents can access their son/daughter's current homework schedule by logging in to ARBOR clicking the assignments button.

## 5. Timing

### Homework by department

- At KS3 each piece of homework will be for approx... 30/45 mins.
- At KS4 each piece of homework will be for approx... 45mins/1 hour.
- At KS5 students are set approximately 4 hours per subject

Subject	Key Stage 3	Key Stage 4
Mathematics	1 per week	1 per week
English	1 per week	1 per week
Science	1 per week	3 per fortnight
Religious Education	1 per fortnight	1 per week
History	1 per fortnight	1 per week
Geography	1 per week	1 per week
Languages	1 per fortnight 1 every 3 weeks for Spanish.	1 per week
Art	1 per fortnight	1 per week
Business Studies	-	1 per week
Computing	1 per half term	1 per fortnight
Design and Technology	1 per fortnight	1 per week
Drama	1 per fortnight	1 per week
Music	1 revision homework per half term	1 per week
Physical Education	-	1 per week for GCSE
PSHE	1 per term.	1 per term.

## 6. Consequences and sanctions for not doing homework:

As one of the main aims of homework is to encourage students to work at home, students should, as a general rule, not be asked to complete work during their break time and lunch time at school. Doing so also 'sanctions' the teacher who has set the homework in the first place. The following are recommended sanctions for a student who has not done homework or has forgotten to bring it to school.

- First instance – should be recorded on ARBOR but using curriculum points noting that a deadline has been missed but no further action should be taken.
- Second instance – should be recorded on ARBOR but using curriculum points noting that a deadline has been missed but no further action should be taken.
- Third instance – it is now becoming clear that there is a pattern of homework not being done. The class teacher should record this offence on ARBOR a third time and send an email to parents requesting that they support the school in encouraging the pupil to complete homework.
- Subsequent instances – The class teacher should discuss the student with the Head of Department. A letter from the head of department, copied to the Senior Progress Leader of the year group, should be sent to the parents requesting support for the school and inviting the parents in for a meeting to discuss how the matter should proceed. (A standard template letter will be made available to do this.)
- If appropriate the Head of Department should consider requesting the student to complete homework in the school library in the supervised sessions before or after school.
- In instances where a Head of Year receives two or more referrals from a Head of Department, the Head of Year should contact parents to request a meeting to discuss the situation. Again use of the supervised sessions in the school library should be considered.



### **Homework Policy**

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