

Home Learning Policy

Last reviewed: Autumn 2025

Next review due: Autumn 2027

RATIONALE

Learning takes place inside and outside the classroom. It is The Bourne Academy's policy to set home learning. It should support students, be planned, meaningful, clear and set regularly. It is extremely important in helping a student do well academically. The partnership between home and school can be clearly seen in the case of homework. Success depends upon both home and school providing support and encouragement to our students. To support this partnership, we use the **Satchel One website, formerly known as Show My Homework (SMHW), to publish all homework**. This can be accessed from a quick link on The Bourne Academy website homepage and an App can also be downloaded for individual student and parent devices. The school provides individual login details to all students and their parents/carers in order that specific information relating to issued homework and deadlines is readily available

What is home learning?

- Home learning refers to any work or activities which students are asked to do outside lesson time, be it at home or in the Academy
- Home learning should not prevent students from participating in activities after Academy hours such as sport, music or clubs of any kind
- The Academy recognises that the environment in which students complete home learning varies significantly so will make every effort to help the home create conditions conducive to learning or to provide alternative arrangements within the Academy

Objectives

- To reinforce, develop and establish concepts and skills taught in lessons.
- To support the learning within each curriculum area
- To encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning
- To practise independent study skills and develop perseverance and self-discipline
- To encourage the involvement of parents in the work of the school

Guidelines to the Amount and Setting of Home learning

In years 7-8 students will be set 60 minutes of homework per week in both English and Maths. Science will set 40 minutes.

All other subjects will set tasks that take between 15-20 minutes to complete. The tasks will routinely be set around the subject Knowledge Organiser and/or lesson content. In Year 7, subjects will be set according to a timetable that will be made available to parents and carers at the start of the academic year. Year 7 homework will commence on a phased transition to support students transitioning to secondary school, with all subjects being introduced by October half term. Teachers will set homework with a minimum of one week to complete. Year 7 and 8 should spend approximately 1 hour engaged in home learning each evening. Students maybe set additional revision material in advance of Year and 8 mid-year and end of year assessments

In years 9, 10 & 11 the number of subjects per night varies depending upon option groups. Up to 3 subjects will be set on any one night. Students should be spending about 2 hours each evening in Key Stage 4, with the expectation that there will be additional revision and preparation in advance of mocks and formal examinations.

In Years 12 and 13 students will be set 4 to 5 hours independent study per subject per week.

Setting of Home learning

Home learning must be set to enable students to plan their time effectively.

A variety of home learning tasks can be set such as:

- Questions
- Quizzes
- Research
- Thinking
- Reading
- Extended writing
- Past papers
- Notes
- Learning/revision
- Projects
- Presentation Preparations
- Memorising/Rehearsing

All home learning must be assessed. This can be done in a variety of ways, such as:

- Marked by the teacher
- Peer/self assessment
- Automatically marked
- Orally
- By testing

Home learning tasks must be planned and must not be only to 'finish off' work from the lesson. All home learning should be placed as a task on Satchel One to support students to track their home learning and meet deadlines. Students must be clear about the purpose of the home learning and how it will be assessed.

Students must be given clear written instructions of the home learning task, the deadline and how to complete the work.

Subject Teachers' Responsibilities:

- Setting, collecting, assessing, and recording progress in accordance with Area of Learning and Academy policies. This includes using the 'Assess' function on Satchel One to inform parents that work has/has not been submitted.
- Keeping accurate home learning & marking records
- Home learning tasks should be planned in advance of the lesson; they should be related to subject Programmes of Study and be related to the Academy Competences
- Home learning tasks should be clearly explained to the class and home learning should not be set in a rush at the end of the lesson
- The teacher must mark home learning, where applicable, within two weeks of the home learning being handed in and preferably before. Home learning should be marked in accordance with the Academy Marking Policy and Teaching for Learning Policy. The teacher must enable the student to know what to do to improve and progress his/her learning

Students' Responsibilities:

- To ask staff if home learning is not clear and to attend home learning support sessions in specific subject areas / Homework Club if required
- To undertake all home learning tasks to the best of his/her ability – his/her personal best
- To hand in ALL home learning by the due date.
- To seek help if required: each subject area provides an opportunity for students having difficulty with home learning tasks or in meeting deadlines to consult a subject specialist.

Parents/Carers' Responsibilities:

- To ensure that their child undertakes all tasks as recorded on Satchel One.
- To inform the Tutor / Subject Teacher when their child has had difficulty completing home learning e.g., owing to family circumstances

- To ensure their child spends at least the set amount of time each evening on home learning as required and follows the home learning timetable
- To inform the Director/Subject Lead if homework is not being set from teachers in their areas

Tutors' Responsibilities:

- To ensure that home learning and its importance is constantly reinforced during Tutor Time / ACE/ Extended Tutor Time and support and guidance given to students about home learning tasks
- To liaise with Parents/Carers on general home learning concerns and devise & monitor a plan of action if required to ensure home learning is completed

Directors'/Subject Leads and Head of House Responsibilities:

- To check that Subject Teachers and Tutors within their teams are following the procedures above
- Assist & support Subject Teachers in ensuring ALL students complete home learning and intervene as required.

Procedures to be followed if a student fails to submit home learning or fails to do it to an acceptable level:

- Any student who fails to do their home learning, or fails to do it to an acceptable level, without a note of justification from their parent/carer, will be required to attend a centralised homework detention

Monitoring Procedures for Teacher Marking and Feedback

- During any learning observation, observer will check the timing and nature of home learning set and the quality of feedback given to students
- The observer will check that home learning has been assessed in line with the Academy's Feedback Policy
- If required, action to improve the timing and nature of home learning and / or the quality of feedback given to students will be taken

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The Governing Body will review this policy at least every two years and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the Academy.