



# BOLDON SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

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All pupils are expected to do homework, which should be set regularly, as detailed below, by all subject teachers.

## Aims

**For the pupils**, homework tasks give opportunities to:

- Work independently.
- Develop study skills.
- Develop organisational skills and research skills.
- Develop self-discipline.
- See learning as an activity that can carry through to adulthood.

**For the teacher**, homework should be considered as an integral part of the work in hand, directed to reinforcement, revision, development or extension of that work. To this end, homework tasks should be considered alongside lesson preparation and should be differentiated where necessary. The following points need to be borne in mind when setting homework:

- Is it appropriate to the level of the group?
- Is it to reinforce the work by practice of skills taught; learning of rules, vocabulary or formulae?
- Have you reached a point where revision of a topic/area of study/module is necessary before a test on it?
- Is the intention to develop pupil skills by their application to new situations, topics, and problems?
- Are able pupils to be extended by the work, bringing in peripheral areas of interest and encouraging exploration of linked topics?

## The Homework Timetable

The Head of Department will be responsible for organising each teaching group's homework timetable by entering requirements on a blank timetable provided by the

Head of Year. Homework time should be allocated according to the time given to a subject on the timetable,

### **Years 7, 8 and 9**

English, Mathematics	2 homeworks per subject
Biology, Chemistry, Physics	3 homeworks per fortnight
Modern Languages	2 per subject
Geography, History	1 per subject
Technology	1 homework
Art, Music, Religious Education	1 per week or fortnight
Information Technology	1 per fortnight

### **Maximum 18 homeworks per week**

### **Years 10 & 11**

English, Mathematics, Sciences	2 homeworks per subject
Option subjects	2 per subject

### **Maximum 18 homeworks per week**

## **The Homework Record**

The record of homework tasks will be kept in the student's planner, which will also show the homework timetable for the teaching group. No more than three tasks should be set each day; they should each be of about 20 minutes duration in Years 7 and 8, about 30 minutes in Year 9 and about 35 - 45 minutes in Years 10 and 11. Form tutors are expected to initial each week of the record at some time during the following week, insisting that all pupils maintain the homework record. The Head/Deputy Head of Year should inspect and sign a random sample of students' diaries each week.

## **Subject Teacher Responsibilities**

When homework is given there should be a clear instruction to the class to enter it in the student planner. If possible, the task should be written on the board to be copied in, to prevent a situation where either the parent or the child himself cannot understand what has been written. Please do not assume that all pupils have books at home that can be consulted to look up information.

Persistent failure to complete homework tasks must be followed up, especially in Years 7 and 8, by reporting the pupil to the Head of Department. He/she might impose a sanction such as detention to recover the situation, informing the Head of Year as necessary. If the Head of Year judges the situation to be serious, parents should be contacted first by telephone, then by formal letter, and finally invited into school to discuss how they can support their children in the homework tasks (see Home School Agreement).

An evening homework club, open to all pupils, is held in the library on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at 3.35pm to 4.30pm.