

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S SCHOOL

SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY

Approved by Teaching and Learning Committee, Autumn 2006

Approved by the Full Governing Body, Autumn 2006

To be reviewed, Autumn 2009

RATIONALE

Homework is set in order to:

- raise standards of achievement
- encourage pupils to develop the skills, confidence and motivation needed to study effectively on their own
- equip individuals for life long learning and to develop their independence and adaptability
- consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding developed at school
- help prepare students to manage the demands of coursework and exam preparation

GUIDELINES

The setting of homework

- Years 7-11 are set homework according to the annual timetable.
- Homework is phased in over the first half term for year 7
- At least two subjects are set each night.
- Students are expected to spend approximately
 - 30 minutes per homework in Years 7-8
 - 40 minutes per homework in Year 9 and
 - 45 minutes per homework in Years 10-11.In Year 12 and 13 students are expected to study 4.5 hours per week per each subject option in addition to lesson times, in order to meet the demands of their course.
- Learning objectives and the assessment criteria should be made clear to students
- Teachers should ensure that homework is recorded in students' planners with deadlines for completion
- Normally students are given at least 2 days in which to complete assignments, (unless the timetable indicates otherwise e.g. subsequent lesson on the next day).

The nature of homework tasks

- Faculty homework policies include the range of tasks which are appropriate for students of different ages and abilities.
- Tasks are linked to the Programmes of Study and syllabus requirements.
- Students are given opportunities to complete a variety of assignments in subjects across the curriculum. These will include such activities as: experiments, investigations, interviews, research, public library visits, reading, designing, drawing, word processing, drafting, revision, essay and report writing and projects

Homework Support

- Facilities are available to support students in their homework.
- The Libraries at Luker and Wormestall are open at lunchtimes. Students have access to a range of resources for research including the school network.
- After school and holiday opening times are published in BartholoNews
- Homework support is offered at lunchtimes by faculties

- Students are encouraged to seek help if they do not understand their homework

Marking and assessment

- Homework is assessed in line with the school and faculty policies.
- Homework is normally marked and returned within a week of completion or when stated. When a major coursework assignment is set students will receive feedback on their progress and targets, at interim periods, before its completion.

Students' responsibilities

Students are expected

- to complete work on time and to the best of their ability
- to record all homework set and to use planners in order to manage their time efficiently and to meet deadlines
- to discuss their homework at home and have their planners signed

Support from home

To enable students to make the most of homework opportunities, parents and carers are asked:

- to discuss the importance of homework
- to read the homework planner to check when homework is set and due in, and to comment as necessary, before signing
- to expect deadlines to be met
- to encourage students and praise them when homework is completed well.

Evaluation

The implementation and effectiveness of the Homework Policy are monitored and evaluated through the House system and Faculties. The following aspects of the Policy are monitored and evaluated, as appropriate, through checking of planners BY TUTORS:

- whether homework is set regularly
- what is set
- whether pupils use planners
- whether there is parental involvement.

Monitoring and evaluation of:

- whether homework is appropriately differentiated
- whether it matches guidelines
- whether it is marked and targets for development are set

and is conducted by:

- Team Leaders (Heads of faculty subject, Key Stage co-ordinators) through moderation procedures and sampling of students' work at termly team meetings
- the Leadership Team, through termly sampling of work.

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Signed by Chairman

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Date