

# The Bishop's Stortford High School

## Homework Policy

**Committee:** Curriculum and Standards

**Approved by GB:** Jan 2016

**Review Date:** Jan 2019

The school sees homework an essential part of the process of good education. It encourages self discipline, independent study and underpins the belief that learning can be undertaken as a lifelong process outside the classroom as well as within it.

Homework is to be set on a regular basis in accordance with the homework timetable arranged by the Head of Year, and published by them at the start of the year. This will give parents and students rough guidelines as to the amount of time students are expected to be studying per night, which will vary according to their age. Subject teachers are asked to set work within these guidelines of a level and duration appropriate to the age and ability of the students in each group and in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the Subject Leader.

Homework should be recorded on Showmyhomework and outcomes monitored. Ideally, it should be differentiated and provide an opportunity for students to use different techniques to consolidate or extend learning beyond the classroom. The tasks set must contain an appropriate level of challenge.

Sixth Form personal study should be directed by the classroom teacher in line with schemes of work and the guidelines set by the Upper School Team. Tasks set should ideally be differentiated and further the skills of independent learning which were developed at KS4.

The Showmyhomework platform has been purchased by the school to allow students and parents to view the homework set online. It is the student's responsibility to check what homework has been set and to complete it to an appropriate standard. Failure to do so will result in an appropriate sanction.

Subject teachers should keep a record of all homework set and the outcomes of homework tasks should be monitored in line with the Department's marking policy.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Subject Leaders are expected to provide guidance to their teams, monitor the setting of homework regularly and evaluate the quality of the homework tasks being set. This will involve sampling student's work.

Senior staff will also sample student's work from time to time.

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## Approximate amount of homework to expect:

The following acts as an approximate guide as to how long homework tasks should take on average per week. This will also be spread across weekends.

KS3 – average of one and a half hours per night

KS4 – average of two and a half hours per night

KS5 – average of three hours per night

## Suggested Homework tasks:

Homework tasks will vary between subjects and Subject Leaders will provide guidance but homework may involve:

- Reading and preparing work for the next lesson
- Learning facts / vocabulary
- Practicing exercises
- Researching
- Evaluating
- Interviewing and collecting data / evidence
- Watching a specific television programme
- Practicing a skill
- Collecting

## Inappropriate Homework tasks:

- Finishing off work started in class, where some students will have no or little homework to complete

Note: Revision or learning exercises are only useful if they are followed up by testing.