



# BRIGHTON GIRLS

## HOMEWORK POLICY

### Document Control

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**School:**

BGS Senior, Sixth

**Version:**

05

**Valid as of:**

August 2021

**Last Review:**

August 2021



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## 1. PURPOSE & APPLICABILITY

This policy provides guidelines for the arrangements that have been made by BGS related to Homework. This policy is applicable to Brighton Girls Senior & Sixth Form School.

August 2021: This policy will operate as normal unless [Covid-19 system of controls](#) overrule it.

## 2. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS & MEANINGS

BGS	Brighton Girls' School
DFE	Department for Education
GDST	Girls' Day School Trust
KS	Key Stage
Y	Year
<b>May / Should</b>	Advisory
<b>Shall / Must</b>	Mandatory

## 3. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

### 3.1. Introduction

This is the school's policy for the provision of homework to pupils and has been drawn up in accordance with guidance from the DFE and Sutton Education Trust.

It must be recognised that parents play a vital role in the education of their child, therefore it is important and valuable to have a good home-school partnership, which a homework policy must address.

### 3.2. Homework - A definition

Homework is defined as any work or activity that students are asked to undertake outside of lesson time. Homework is viewed as bridging the gap between teacher-led and student-led learning.



Homework doesn't necessarily have to be completed at home but can be completed in study periods (for the sixth form) and after-school homework clubs. We see work completed outside of lesson time as a valuable part of a student's learning.

### 3.3. Homework – the purpose

- To provide students with an opportunity to apply, review and consolidate their knowledge and skills independently.
- Provide students with the opportunity to work on an activity that is relevant to learning outcomes, or that contributes to gaining qualifications/accreditations.
- Develop an effective partnership between the school, parents and carers in pursuing the academic aims of the school and the development of their child.
- Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding prior to the following lesson.
- Extend learning (and learning time) across the curriculum.
- Encourage students to develop the confidence, self-discipline and independence to develop organisational skills.
- Creates opportunities for creativity and choice.

At Brighton Girls, we encourage children to pursue extra-curricular activities and, whilst homework should be used to effectively reinforce and/or extend what is learned in school, we do not expect it to compromise a student's commitment to additional activities. We hope that our students will feel a sense of personal satisfaction in a task completed well, and that their efforts will be recognised and praised both at home and at school. Homework tasks should be undertaken to the best of their ability.

### 3.4. Current practice

At the beginning of the academic year, each year group will be informed about what is expected of them with regards to homework. In addition, we use the Firefly VLE as a record for students to refer to, to check tasks and dates, but also to communicate this information to parents.

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Find homework timetables here: <https://bhhs.fireflycloud.net/homework-timetables>  
It is important teachers adhere to these timetables to avoid students being overwhelmed with homework at any one time.

Based on current good practice pupils to spend the following amount of time on homework:

KS3	KS4	KS5
<b>Y7:</b> 1hr / subject ^/ fortnight <b>Y8:</b> 1hr / subject*^ / fortnight <b>Y9:</b> 80 mins / subject*^ / fortnight	<b>Y10:</b> 90 mins / subject / fortnight  <b>Y11:</b> 2hrs / subject / fortnight	<b>Y12 &amp; Y13:</b> 8hrs / subject / fortnight <b>EPQ:</b> 4hrs / fortnight

**\*In Y8 Science will divide this time allocation between the 3 subjects: Biology, Chemistry and Physics will set 20mins homework. In Y9, Science will divide this time allocation between the 3 subjects: Biology, Chemistry and Physics will set 30, 25 and 25mins homework. This will work on a carousel and change termly.**

**^English will set an additional 30mins reading time/fortnight. In Y8, 45mins/English Language & Literature will be set and at Y9 1hr/ English Language & English Literature. At GCSE, this pattern will continue with 90min/fortnight homework set for Language and the same for Literature. This is an exception to the rule as 2 subjects are taught.**

**Each department will set homework either once over a fortnight, or split the time over two weeks. This is agreed by the Head of Section. This means that a student in Y7 should only have 1hr of homework per night and a Y10 student will have 90 minutes of homework per night.** Whilst teachers will stick to this formula, it is the student's responsibility to manage their time effectively to ensure all deadlines are met. In order to accommodate these new timings, homework may not necessarily be set on the same day as a lesson. Therefore, students will be notified of their homework via a Firefly task message in their e-mail account. We foresee this system will help students with their organisation, become more accountable and more independent. Parents and carers will be copied into these tasks, so they are also aware of homework requirements.

At KS3, it is likely that students will be expected to undertake differentiated homework activities and on occasions, students will be able to select their own homework (see Fig 1 below) activity to reflect this. These activities will differ depending on the teacher and subject. At KS4 and KS5 homework will also be differentiated, but will have a greater focus towards exam preparation and therefore there may be more past paper questions set. With this in mind however,

variety is still key and therefore choice of homework task will also be offered on occasions.

Teachers will not set homework tasks to be completed for the next day and students will have at least two days to complete any work set.

### 3.5. Feedback given to students

The school recognises the importance of providing prompt and actionable feedback to students, parents and carers. Feedback will include how well homework tasks have been tackled, and the knowledge, skills and understanding developed. Sometime this feedback might be verbal, or become part of a test result (summative). At other times an appropriate comment of praise, appreciation or area for improvement (formative) will be written.

A grade 9-1 may not be awarded for each piece of homework as it may not be relevant, **but an effort grade (E, G, S, I or U) will always be given.** Any given feedback will vary according to the age of the pupil.

Fig 1:

Level	Criteria	Choice of task
<b>Grades 3-5</b>	<b>All students will ...</b> •	-an informative poster -a dictionary of the key terms relevant to this topic -3 tweets to summarise the points below -5 challenging quiz questions
<b>Grades 6-7</b>	<b>Some students will...</b> •	- an information leaflet -a poem or song - a series of challenging quiz questions - a factsheet summarising your learning and add 5 additional key facts - a flow diagram or comic strip
<b>Grades 8-9</b>	<b>Few students will ...</b>	- an attention grabbing & informative webpage - write a newspaper article

	•	- a movie - a starter activity for a lesson - write an essay
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#### 4. APPENDIX

NIL

#### 5. DOCUMENT HISTORY

Document Title	Version	Date of Issue	Change	Updated by	Status
BHHS Homework Policy	Initial	June 2016	NIL	Heidi Boyes	Expired
BHHS Homework Policy	01	June 2017	Full Review	Heidi Boyes	Expired
BHHS Homework Policy	02	November 2017	New Policy Template	Paul Fairhurst	Expired
BRIGHTON GIRLS Homework policy	03	September 2019	Change of school name; policy review	Kate Ashdown	expired



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BRIGHTON GIRLS Homework policy	04	August 2020	Covid-19 update	Kate Ashdown	expired
BRIGHTON GIRLS Homework policy	05	August 2021	Review and addition of link to homework tt	Kate Ashdown	Live

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