

# Bolder Academy Homework Plan

**Rationale;** At Bolder Academy we consider homework to be an integral part of the curriculum and a valued part of a balanced education, as well as supporting students to develop as independent, resilient learners. The work set usually reinforces what is taught in the lesson and enables students to take responsibility for their own learning. We see homework as an enriching and essential part of the learning process. We have high standards and the expectation is that all homework will be completed to the best of the student's ability and on time. Homework will not be set simply for the sake of it, but only when it serves a useful purpose. If a student finds a piece of homework very challenging, they are advised to ask for additional support from their teacher ahead of any submission deadlines so that they can resolve any misunderstandings. If a student is absent from school, it is their responsibility to see their teacher on their return to Bolder Academy and catch up on work missed as soon as possible. Homework helps students to teach them skills of being able to work independently, managing their time efficiently and being able to manage multiple tasks to meet specific deadlines.

## Principles underlying homework policy and practice

- Homework should be carefully planned and be an integral part of the subject to help broaden students' understandings and knowledge.
- Homework should be differentiated to meet the needs of individual pupils and should not be designed to have only one outcome or expectation for all.
- Pupils should be adequately prepared for the completion of tasks set by having access to the correct resources to do the homework, for example worksheets handed out, attached PDF's, digital access codes to Satchel One.
- Parent guardians of students should be able to provide a work area that helps support their child with doing their homework alongside having the correct standard equipment to support their children.
- Homework should be issued in appropriate quantities and completion dates should be both clear and reasonable. Students should always be given a minimum of 1 week to do the homework so that they can manage their time effectively.

## Reasons & aims of homework at Bolder Academy are as follows:

1. **Consolidation and Extension:** Homework allows students to reinforce and expand upon the topics covered in class, preparing them for future learning activities.
2. **Resource Access:** It provides students with the opportunity to access resources that may not be readily available in the classroom, enhancing their learning experience.
3. **Research Skills Development:** Homework helps students develop their research skills, encouraging independent exploration and inquiry.
4. **Independence:** It offers students a chance to work independently, fostering self-reliance and autonomy in their academic pursuits.
5. **Progress and Understanding:** Completing homework should allow students to demonstrate their progress and understanding of the subject matter, serving as a valuable feedback mechanism for both students and teachers.
6. **Evaluation of Teaching:** Homework also aids in the evaluation of teaching effectiveness, as student performance on homework assignments can provide insights into the effectiveness of classroom instruction.

7. **Study Skills Enhancement:** Through homework, students can enhance their study skills, including time management and self-discipline, which are essential for academic success.
8. **Parental Cooperation and Support:** Homework serves as a means to engage parents in the educational process, promoting cooperation and support between home and school.
9. **Home-School Dialogue:** Homework creates channels for communication and dialogue between the home and school, fostering a collaborative environment that supports student learning.

### **How will homework be set?**

The process of setting homework at Bolder Academy will be facilitated through the use of the homework application called Satchel One. This application provides a user-friendly homework calendar that the school will utilise to effectively assign and communicate homework tasks to parents and students throughout the entire school.

Using Satchel One, teachers will be able to efficiently set homework assignments and ensure that learners and parents have easy access to all the necessary information regarding their homework. This accessibility will be provided through web-based platforms, as well as mobile and tablet devices.

This system at Bolder Academy, streamlines the process and ensures that teachers, parents, and students are well-informed about the assigned homework tasks and their respective deadlines. This technological solution aims to enhance communication and coordination between all parties involved, facilitating a more efficient and organised approach to homework management.

Some subjects may also use the Google Classroom, Seneca, Exam Pro, My Maths, BBC Bitesize and other software's to support the learning of students and may require students to submit digitally their work using these programmes. In all cases the homework will firstly be placed on Satchel One alongside this with the correct links to any information that is required and instructions of what to do.

### **Accessing homework:**

A personalised homework calendar that allows parents and students to see what homework needs to be completed is available via Satchel One to all users. Upon logging in, students will only be able to view their own homework calendar, using Satchel One. Attached with this document is the link to download the app for Satchel One. To join Satchel One, parents will need an ID number which can be provided by the school to allow them to register and see what work is being set for their child. If you do not have this access ID code then please contact the pastoral lead for that year group who will be able to let you know what it is.

Google Play Satchel One App [Link](#)

Apple Satchel One App [Link](#)



## **Students Responsibilities**

- Create a homework schedule/ plan at home that outlines when they will do each subjects homework's.
- Use prep time in key stage 3 to complete homework tasks and plan when to complete the work that can not be done in prep time.
- Take responsibility for learning and submit completed work in a timely manner keeping to the specified deadlines.
- Take pride in the presentation and content of their homework and complete it to the best of their ability.
- In the event of absence, find out what classwork and homework has been missed and make sure it is still completed, alongside taking responsibility to check Satchel One when at home and unable to attend school.
- Seek clarification if unsure what to do from the teacher 48hrs before the deadline.
- Write down in their planner what days they will receive homework from which subjects.

## **Parents/carers responsibilities are to:**

- Provide a quiet place to work
- Have access to the learning equipment and resources for example; pen, pencil, ruler, computer, internet etc...
- Support your child in helping them to create a homework schedule/plan to complete the homework at home
- Turn on notifications on Satchel One, check in with children to see how they are progressing and monitor workload.
- If parents/carers have any concerns about homework, they should contact the teacher or Form Tutor in the first instance, see our website for staff contact details
- Make sure that their child completes homework to a high standard and on time
- To have a regular conversation about homework, what is being studied and that it is being completed on time and to the best of the child's ability.

## **The role of the teacher**

- Sets homework and should always record this on Satchel One in line with school and departmental policy on the day of when the student has had the lesson.
- Set differentiated homework where appropriate dependent on task given with full and comprehensive instructions.
- Set deadlines for completed work and ensure that they are met.
- Consider any assessments in the school calendar when setting homework to ensure student well-being.
- Mark and give feedback (if appropriate) and return all homework promptly. Feedback may be given verbally, peer assessed, as a response sheet, be part of an assessment or students may receive a grade of 1 to 5 in line with its own assessment department policy.
- Ensure that a student with SEND has understood the homework task and that it is clearly recorded within a separated message using Satchel One.
- Ensure all homework given is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum.
- Communicate with parents if there is a problem regarding homework alongside providing help and support
- Set sanctions for non-completion of homework in line with departmental policy.
- Inform Subject Leader, Tutor and Head of Year, as appropriate when problems arise

- Ensure homework takes equal opportunities into account and that the needs of students with disabilities are considered.
- If team teaching or sharing a class with another teacher that only one homework is set per week for each class.

### **Form Tutors' responsibilities are to:**

- Check student planners to ensure homework is being recorded and completed. Note and respond to any comments written in planners by parents/carers and teachers. Planners need to be checked once a week.
- Regularly check on Sims and notice any trends or issues associated with non-completion of Homework.

### **The role of the HOD and Senco**

- Develop a departmental approach to homework and policy that outlines the types of homework's and feedback that will be given.
- Monitor the frequency and quality of homework set in the department
- Support Teachers with incomplete homework, liaising with students and parents when necessary.
- Ensure that all teachers in their department are setting appropriate homework, recorded on Satchel One, in line with departmental policy and that they are keeping a record of which students are completing homework.
- Consider any assessments in the school calendar when setting homework to ensure student well-being.
- Set sanctions for non-completion of homework in line with departmental policy.

### **Homework during holidays & exam weeks:**

- Over the holidays it is important that students in **key stage 3** are given time off for **well-being** considerations from doing homework. Only revision, reading or missed homework's should be asked to be completed by teachers.
- **All subjects at Key Stage 4 & 5** can be set homework during holidays.

### **Individual Needs and SEN:**

- Some students may have their homework differentiated by amount, task or outcome. Rewards and sanctions will still apply but individual needs are considered. Parents and carers are encouraged to work with the school and may contact the Form Tutor in the first instance with specific concerns.
- At Bolder Academy we recognise that students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) may require that specific tasks be set that are consistent with a student's Individual Education Plans.
- While students with SEND may benefit from special tasks separated from the homework given to other students, it is important that they also do as much in common with other students.
- A balanced amount of the right type of homework will be set for students with SEND, in consultation with the parents and the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator.

### **Prep Time & Further Support**

- Students in key stage 3 will be given 50 minutes or two 50 minutes sessions per week to complete homework in school with access to a computer each week, dependent on which year group they are in.
- Students are advised to use this time to plan or complete homework's.
- If a student is struggling with the homework it is their responsibility to speak to the teacher and clarify any misunderstanding before the deadline date, at least 48hrs in advance.

## **Grade Reflection Statement Meanings for Student Reports**

A grade will be reported to key stage 4 and 5 students during the reporting cycles.

In both grade collections students will receive an **(ATL OUT) Attitude to learning out of class grade of 1 to 5** that will be used to reflect the level of effort and attitude to completing the work throughout the year. This grade will appear as a number on the report and will reflect how hard the student is working on their homework.

### **Grade 5**

- Homework, Coursework & revision prep show significant effort that exceeds expectations.
- All homework & coursework deadlines are met on time.
- Homework & revision quality is always of a standard appropriate to ability.
- Teacher feedback from homework is always responded to.
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### **Grade 4**

- Most homework, coursework deadlines & revision expectations are met.
- Homework & revision quality is regularly of a standard appropriate to ability.
- Teacher feedback from homework is regularly responded to.

### **Grade 3**

- Some homework or coursework deadlines & revision expectations are met.
- Homework & revision quality is sometimes of a standard appropriate to ability.
- Teacher feedback from homework is sometimes responded to.

### **Grade 2**

- Rarely meets homework, coursework deadlines or revision expectations.
- Homework quality is not of a standard appropriate to ability.
- Teacher feedback from homework is rarely responded to

### **Grade 1**

- Does not meet any homework or coursework deadlines or prepare correctly for examinations
- Homework is poorly presented and completed to an unacceptable standard
- Does not respond to teacher feedback or make corrections and improvements

## Homework Key Information

### Key Stage 3

- No homework should be set for **year 7** students from **English, Mathematics & Science** until the 1st Half term has been completed.
- Homework will be **set weekly for English, Mathematics & Science**.
- Homework from **non-core subjects** for **year 7** can be given to them after the **month of November**.
- **Non-core subjects will set a minimum of two** homework's **per half term to year 7, 8 and 9 students**.
- Homework in each subject for Year 7 could take approximately **30 minutes** to complete.
- Homework in each subject for Year 8 could take approximately **30 minutes** to complete.
- Homework in each subject for Year 9 could take approximately **40 minutes** to complete.
- Students in Key stage 3 will also be given **prep time** in the morning during form time either 1 or 2 times a week dependent on what year group they are in. In this time, they will be allowed to either complete homework or check through Satchel One to create a time plan of what they need to do.

### Key Stage 4

- Homework will be set weekly for all examination courses/subjects.
- Homework pieces could take approximately **60 minutes** to complete.
- **Coursework subjects** may set longer homework's that span over two or three weeks alongside theory.

### Key Stage 5

- **Homework will be set weekly** for all examination courses/subjects and students **may receive 1 or 2 pieces** of homework to complete per week.
- The school does not publish a prescriptive homework timetable for Key stage 5.
- Teachers are expected to adhere to the arrangements described above, and to set homework with a reasonable deadline for completion (it is not usually expected that students would have to hand in homework the next day, for example). Students are expected to develop their organisational skills by planning the completion of their homework tasks.
- In addition to completing the work set by their teachers each week students in the Sixth Form will be expected to work on their subjects independently. This might consist of ongoing revision activities, independent further research into areas covered in class, exam preparation or reading ahead to enhance their understanding in future lessons.
- The work students complete outside the classroom should be equal to the time spent in the classroom. For example, if students have 6 hours of biology, they should be independently working for 6 hours outside of the classroom on this subject.

### Students who fail to complete homework

- All students are expected to complete homework on time and to a high standard. The completion of homework is **compulsory**.
- Failure to complete or hand in homework will be treated as a serious issue and sanctions will be imposed following the departments own policies and students will receive a (L2) 1 Hour Detention.
- Teachers may still request for missing homework's to be completed alongside new homework's being issued if a student has missed a previous deadline.
- If a student brings in a note with **extenuating circumstances** to explain why, then it is at the discretion of the teacher and HOD if they set the detention or just given a 48-hour extension. Where there are issues with homework, parents are encouraged to contact the relevant teacher by writing a note in their planner, a letter or an email to the teacher.