

## HOMEWORK AT BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

### **Rationale:**

At Bourne Grammar School, homework is viewed as a valuable part of a student's learning. We believe that effective homework can reinforce the academic learning undertaken during the day and help our students to develop lifelong skills. Our homework is structured, meaningful and coherent for all concerned – it is not set as an afterthought by teachers, but is instead planned to broaden, consolidate, extend or enhance our students' learning experience.

### **Our Principles:**

- Setting homework is part of the Teachers' Standards and is outlined in the following way: 'Teachers should set homework and plan other out-of-class activities to consolidate and extend the knowledge and understanding pupils have acquired.'
- Homework should be used to consolidate learning of the curriculum, deepen understanding and prepare pupils for further study in the future.
- Homework develops lifelong skills such as personal organisation, time management, resilience and independence.
- Homework provides parents with the chance to support their child's progress and engage in dialogue about learning and progress.
- Homework in Year 7 is delivered in the form of BBL work (Building Better Learners). The focus at Year 7 is to develop students' independent learning skills and they are expected to carry out 15 minutes of independent work for each subject they have studied in that day. BBL strategies are taught to students to provide them with the required skillset to work independently each evening and to develop a routine of self-regulated learning.

### **How homework will be set:**

Teachers will set homework by using the 'Satchel One' online homework app, through which students will be able to check their homework and deadlines. Parents will receive notification when homework is set via the 'Satchel One' app.

Students will never be given a deadline of the day after it is set. Sufficient time will be provided in which students can complete the homework.

### **The types of homework that we will set and why:**

At Bourne Grammar School, we use evidence-informed practice and research in order to provide the most effective types of homework tasks to enhance our students' learning experience.

Homework activity/tasks could include the following:

	Homework Tasks Include:	How the tasks help to build better learners:
READ IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Reading key extracts of texts/literature</li> <li>➤ Reading articles</li> </ul>	<p>Reading helps to improve vocabulary, communication, grammar and writing skills.</p> <p>‘Language and literacy provide us with the building blocks not just for academic success, but for fulfilling careers and rewarding lives’. (Education Endowment Foundation)</p>
SPELL IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Spelling and vocabulary tests</li> <li>➤ Exploration of the etymology of key words</li> </ul>	<p>Spelling tasks help students to be able to spell key words within their subjects correctly. The more practice that students have at spellings, the better chance they have at remembering them. Being able to spell words correctly is something that will help students all through their life</p>
APPLY IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Extended written responses to a question</li> <li>➤ Producing a piece of work which will demonstrate understanding of a topic or concept</li> </ul>	<p>These tasks might require students to demonstrate how well they have understood and learnt key concepts from their lessons. They might be extended written responses to a question which require students to apply their knowledge and understanding.</p>
RETRIEVE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Knowledge Organisers</li> <li>➤ Quizzes</li> <li>➤ Self-testing</li> <li>➤ Flashcards</li> <li>➤ Learning grids</li> <li>➤ Revision</li> </ul>	<p>These are tasks which prompt students to recall/remember key information. The more students are encouraged to retrieve information, the more chance we have of it ‘sticking’ and remaining in the long term memory for students to retrieve with ease</p>
PRACTISE IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Practice of skills</li> <li>➤ Rehearsal of lines</li> <li>➤ Practice of foreign language accent</li> <li>➤ Music practice for performance pieces</li> <li>➤ Use of platforms such as: ‘SENECA’ ‘Dr Frost’ ‘Kerboodle’</li> </ul>	<p>Repeated practice helps students to remember or to master something to an excellent standard</p>
INDEPENDENT LEARNING (YEAR 7 – BBL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Rereading and recapping the work completed in lessons that day to consolidate learning.</li> <li>➤ Using the BBL drive to access links to further reading about the subject</li> <li>➤ Using the BBL drive to ‘get ahead;’ to see what content is being taught next and use resources to teach themselves before the lesson.</li> </ul>	<p>A crucial strand of the School’s overarching Curriculum Philosophy is independent learning. The School aims to equip students with the skills required to become independent, self-regulated learners who are able to succeed in Further and Higher Education.</p>

### Time to be Spent Completing Homework or self-directed study:

Based on current good practice and previous DfE guidance, Bourne Grammar School recommends that our students spend the following amount of time on their homework or independent learning.

YEAR 7	<i>Approximately 60 minutes per day</i>
YEAR 8	<i>Approximately 70 minutes per day</i>
YEAR 9	<i>Approximately 80 minutes per day</i>
YEAR 10	<i>Approximately 90 minutes per day</i>
YEAR 11	<i>Approximately 100 minutes per day</i>
SIXTH FORM	<i>Approximately 120 minutes per day (excluding study periods)</i>

If students complete all homework in a time below the School's daily guidance, students should undertake independent learning to consolidate learning or fill in gaps in their knowledge and understanding.

### Approximate Guidance for Subjects: Amount of Time (mins) of Homework Set (per fortnight)

	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Art	30	30	90	90
Biology		50	70	70
Chemistry		50	70	70
Computer Science	30	30	90	90
Design Engineering	40	30	90	90
Drama	30	30	90	90
English	80	100	140	140
EPR	30	30	90	90
French	30	30	90	90
Geography	40	30	90	90
German	30	30	90	90
History	40	50	90	90
Mathematics	80	100	120	120
Music	30	30	90	90
PE			90	90
Physics		50	70	70
Science	100			
Spanish	80	80	90	90
Statistics			90	90

- **Year 7** follow a programme of Independent Learning spending 10-15 minutes on homework per night for each subject studied in that day.
- All **Sixth Form** subjects will set approximately 300 minutes of homework per fortnight for each subject studied. Some form of task will be set at the end of every 6<sup>th</sup> Form lesson for students to complete outside of the classroom: tasks may include independent activities such as research, wider reading or watching a video and may not necessarily require teacher marking or feedback. All tasks will be recorded on Satchel One.

The guidance above is simply that – guidance. Teachers will adhere to the timings as closely as possible but this will not always be possible, particularly in practical subjects.