HOMEWORK PROCEDURE

Purpose

The purpose of homework at Bradon Forest School is to complement the curriculum by providing students with opportunities to reinforce their understanding of classroom concepts, cultivate independence in their learning journey and face a high level of challenge that encourages them to 'think hard.'

Homework serves as a bridge between classroom instruction and self-directed learning, fostering a deeper engagement with the curriculum, while also preparing students to tackle more complex academic challenges. And it is for these reasons that it is an integral part of the Bradon Lesson.

Underpinning this approach at Bradon Forest School are three principles

- Consistency in the frequency and equity of setting homework
- Consistency in quality over quantity
- Consistency in acknowledgement and appropriate levels of feedback on homework

Guided by Subject Areas

Each faculty/subject area has its own procedure which reflects this whole school approach which:

- Provides a clear statement about faculty expectations for staff, students and parents
- Sets out a practical interpretation of the systems for managing homework
- Has a plan to ensure that all students are equipped for learning at home
- Maps homework tasks explicitly into schemes of learning and the curriculum
- Ensures there is a named individual with responsibility for monitoring the setting of homework across the subject. This will usually be the head of subject.

Homework Principles

To ensure the effective purpose of homework at Bradon Forest school the following principles should be followed:

- **Reinforce:** Faculties provide homework that is interesting, relevant and stimulating. It should align with classroom instruction to reinforce and practice concepts taught in class.
- **Clarity**: Assignments should be clear, with well-defined objectives and instructions, ensuring students understand the task.
- **Independence**: Homework encourages self-directed learning, fostering students' ability to work independently.
- **Varied Formats:** Assignments should encompass various formats, such as reading, essays, problem-solving, and creative projects.
- **Purposeful Review:** Homework can be used for review and preparation for upcoming lessons, enhancing classroom engagement.
- **Equity:** Homework policies should consider students' diverse needs and provide necessary support for those who require it.

By adhering to these principles, homework serves its purpose at Bradon Forest School effectively.

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Homework Frequency (The Homework Timetable)

A homework timetable is in place providing clarity to students on the expectations around homework completion. This timetable is made available to parents and students on a termly basis. How much each subject sets varies with some subjects setting each week and others on a termly basis.

The expectation is...

- Homework must be set for that week across all classes in that subject for the year group.
- Teachers can set homework whenever they wish in addition to this 'minimum expectation'
- There is no expectation that all homework will be 'marked' or individual feedback given on every occasion but there will be some form of acknowledgement of effort.

The average time expected to be spent by students on homework will increase as the student progresses through the school and there will be occasions when students spend more time studying independently as they prepare for examinations.

There may be times when a student receives more homework on certain days should this be the case it is expected that the student manages the workload to fit in with the deadline dates.
Where it is vital to set a homework that uses specialist equipment, students should be advised of a time and location in school, at lunch or breaktime, when school equipment will be available for their use.

Completion of Homework

- Homework and resources needed will be clearly set on Class Charts. Parent and child can access their child's account at home as parental encouragement and support in completing homework is valued.
- Support will be given to students who are learning how to complete homework. This will include teaching students the study skills required for independent work, offering the student homework hubs and SEND support. Where a student struggles to complete homework because of practical problems eg lack of an appropriate place or appropriate atmosphere, the school will endeavour to provide the student with support to overcome these difficulties
- Staff will use the Behaviour Management System if a student does not complete a piece of homework by the deadline date.

Students with Special Educational Needs

At Bradon Forest School, we hold high expectations for all our students. However, we understand that some students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) may find the quantity of homework demanding. In such instances, staff are directed by the SEND team to refer to the students' learning passports and make reasonable adjustments to the consequences for these students, ensuring that each student receives the support they need to succeed.

Review

- This procedure will be reviewed again in 2027.

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