



Key Stage 3 Homework Policy

Agreed by Board of Governors: Oct 2011 To be reviewed: Oct 2014

Rationale

The Belfast Model School for Girls believes that homework is essential to our pupils' learning and to their academic and personal development. We believe that homework is an important vehicle for promoting independence and a sense of responsibility and a means of raising pupil achievement.

Purposes

Through homework tasks:

Pupils have opportunities:

- To consolidate and extend learning in the classroom
- To practise and become more confident in developing cross curricular core skills (ICT, Using Mathematics and Communication) and thinking skills and personal capabilities
- To carry out individual research
- To develop self-discipline, independence and initiative

School has opportunities:

- To strengthen home-school relationships
- To provide opportunities for assessment, including Assessment for Learning
- To raise attainment for all pupils

Parents have opportunities:

To be more involved in their daughter's education and help her to develop academically and personally.

General Guidelines

(Revised policy begins in Year 8 in 2011-12 and rolls out across KS3 2012-14)

- All subjects are expected to set appropriate and challenging homework across Year 8
- Assessed homework comprises 20% of subject grades on pupils' summative reports each year. Assessment criteria must be made explicit to pupils.
- Homework activities with assessment criteria should be signposted and incorporated into planning for each subject.
- Homework is set according to the specifications of the Homework Timetable for each Year group (refer to KS3 Homework Timetables) The Head of Year distributes copies of Homework Timetables at the beginning of the school year to teachers, pupils and parents.

- Pupils who do not submit homework by the deadline set by the teacher/department will be subject to appropriate sanctions (see guidelines on sanctions)
- The Homework Timetable should reflect an appropriate balance across Areas of Learning and across types of homework
- Homework tasks should be differentiated to reflect variation in age and ability and include a variety of tasks/activities e.g. written assignments, reading, mapwork, personal research, learning, revision etc.
- The assessment of homework follows school policy on Assessment, including Assessment for Learning and the results of homework assessments may be incorporated into the Year 8 mentoring programme.
- The school organises after school support 2 afternoons each week to assist pupils with homework tasks and promote good study skills

These policy Guidelines are translated into action through other policies and procedures, for example:

Curriculum Policy

Assessment Policy

Special Educational Needs Policy

Teaching and Learning Policies

Behaviour Management Policy