

BLUE COAT CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL AND MUSIC COLLEGE



HOMEWORK POLICY

Updated: January 2013
Policy duration: 3 years
Committee: Teaching & Learning

The following terms shall be interpreted as indicated below when used hereinafter within this policy:

- a) 'Trustees' refers to the registered trustees of the Coventry Blue Coat Church of England School Foundation, registered charity number 511793
- b) 'Academy trust' refers to the holding body of the Academy namely, Blue Coat Church of England Academy Ltd, registered company number 7594562
- c) 'Blue Coat School' refers to the physical entity of Blue Coat Church of England School and Music College
- d) Any reference to either 'the school' or 'the Academy' contained within this policy is taken to refer to the appropriate given body within context

Assessment of Policy's Impact

The effectiveness of this policy and its impact will be assessed by the Teaching & Learning Committee who will monitor the outcomes and impact of this policy every 3 years. The evidence base for assessment will be presented as agenda items at the Teaching & Learning Committee meetings.

WHAT IS HOMEWORK?

Homework refers to any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time.

WHY WE SET HOMEWORK

1. To encourage students to learn independently.
2. To develop organisational skills and meet deadlines.
3. To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding developed at school.
4. To extend school learning.
5. To sustain the involvement of parents and carers in the management of pupils learning and to keep them informed about the work pupils are doing.
6. To manage particular aspects of a course, such as GCSE and GCE assignments.
7. To encourage initiative by exploring resources outside the classroom.
8. To encourage collaboration.

GUIDELINES FOR THE AMOUNT OF HOMEWORK

Years 7 and 8	1 hour per day
Year 9	1 ½ hours per day
Years 10 and 11	2 hours per day

This may vary with some teaching groups as we will aim to set appropriately to the needs of all pupils.

In Years 12 and 13 the amount of work done by pupils outside lessons will depend on their individual programmes but will usually be 5 hours per GCE per week.

Homework timetables are issued to staff and pupils at the start of every year. Staff will aim to set work at this frequency and on the days allocated, but there may be occasions when this is not appropriate and homework may then be moved to an alternative time. Student workloads will always be considered when this happens. Subject teachers appreciate the need to work within the given timetable in order that pupils should not be required to work in a way which gives them too much to do on some days and too little on others.

All pupils are provided with a personal organiser in which they record the work they are set. It is asked that parents give support to their children by signing it weekly.

Form tutors sign organisers weekly.

We intend that these arrangements will allow scope for other activities such as church groups, drama, music, sport etc., which we value and would not wish to impede.

IF HOMEWORK IS NOT DONE

Students not completing homework to the satisfaction of a member of staff may be set a detention by individual staff or a department unless a satisfactory reason is provided by a parent or carer.

AS A PARENT OR CARER WE ASK YOU TO

1. Provide a suitable place in which students can do their homework.
2. Encourage students to complete homework.
3. Expect deadlines to be met and check that they are.
4. Sign personal organisers weekly.
5. Inform your son/daughters' form tutor or PLM of concerns about homework.
6. Where possible encourage use of the school VLE either at home or at a Coventry library or in *school homework club*.

TASKS

Departments may set pieces of homework that encompass several homework slots; up to half a term in some cases. These will have a definite date for handing in and students will have clear guidance on how to undertake them, week by week. Feedback will be given during the task.

In some cases the nature of homework set requires specialist facilities. This means that, for some students they may not always be able to complete homework at home or at the times specified in the school homework timetable. *Accordingly, for all*

students appropriate facilities will be made available during lunch, break time and at the end of the school day.

Students taking GCSE PE will need to attend an extracurricular club as their homework activity.

FEEDBACK TO STUDENTS

Staff will provide feedback to students on completed work that allows them to learn from it together with targets for improvement. These are outlined in the Assessment, Reporting and Recording policy.

MONITORING

Curriculum Learning Managers and the Deputy Head Curriculum will monitor homework set to evaluate the contribution it is making to learning and check that rotas are operating properly.

HOMEWORK FREQUENCY PER FORTNIGHT

YEAR 7 @ 30 min

ICT x 1
Technology x 2
English x 2
Science x 2
Maths x 2
Geography x 2
German or French x 2
Re x 2
History x 2
Art x 1

18

YEAR 8 @ 30 min

ICT x 1
Technology x 2
English x 2
Science x 2
Maths x 2
Geography x 2
German or French x 2
Re x 2
History x 2
Art x 1

18

YEAR 9 @ 30 minutes YEAR 10 and 11 @ 45 minutes

English x 2
Maths x 2
German or French x 2
Re x 2
Option A x 2
Option B x 2

Option C x 2
Biology x 1
Physics x 1
Chemistry x 1
ICT Y10 & Y11 only x 1

20 or 21