



THE
BRIAN CLARKE
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

HOME LEARNING POLICY

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| Approved By | Local Governing Committee |
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1. Policy Statement

We want all our students to be everything they can be and everything they are meant to be – to be able to live life in all its fullness (John 10.10)

At Brian Clarke we recognise that Home Learning is an important part of students' education. It supports and extends learning beyond the classroom and enables students to develop habits of study and strategies for personal organisation and time management. We want students to relish the opportunities that Home Learning brings and for tasks to support student's love for learning. As such, our Home Learning policy is designed to ensure that Home Learning is:

- Impactful on student achievement, motivation and progress
- Meaningful (not just 'busy work')
- Simple & manageable for students, staff and parents
- Predictable & consistent
- Achievable – students have the best opportunity to succeed and fully complete work to the expected standard and on time.

2. Types of Home Learning

Home Learning tasks for all year groups are focussed on retention and retrieval of core substantive knowledge in a range of subject disciplines. In addition, at Key Stage 4, some students will complete tasks linked to their option subjects coursework/project work. We want students to become "Masters of Knowledge" and their Home Learning will support them to embed knowledge into their long-term memories. This method of Home Learning also allows for students to practice and refine their independent study and revision skills.

At Key Stage 4 it is vital that students are consistently and repeatedly memorising and recalling core knowledge ready for external examinations; our Home Learning strategy supports this from the start of Year 7 and forms a 5-year strategy of study skills and knowledge recall. Students will also need to make progress in terms of their written work and exam preparation, however Home Learning is not the best medium to achieve this. Longer written responses and exam question practice are better completed under supervised conditions, with teacher support in lesson time.

The frequency and type of task set varies between subjects and year groups as below:

Key Stage 3

| Subject | Task | Allocated time |
|-------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Maths | Sparx Maths online tasks + MoK Quiz | 60 minutes per week |
| English | Knowledge Organiser Revision / Spellings + MoK Quiz | 30 minutes per week |
| Science | Knowledge Organiser Revision + MoK Quiz | 30 minutes per week |
| German | Languagenut online tasks + MoK Quiz | 30 minutes per fortnight |
| History | Knowledge Organiser Revision + MoK Quiz | 30 minutes per fortnight |
| Geography | Knowledge Organiser Revision + MoK Quiz | 30 minutes per fortnight |
| Religious Studies | Knowledge Organiser Revision + MoK Quiz | 30 minutes per fortnight |
| Reading (ATS) | Reading for pleasure | 120 minutes per week |

Key Stage 4

| Subject | Task | Allocated time |
|---------|---|-----------------|
| Maths | Sparx Maths + Quiz | 1 hour per week |
| English | Knowledge Organiser Revision + MoK Quiz | 1 hour per week |
| Science | Knowledge Organiser Revision + MoK Quiz | 1 hour per week |
| German | Knowledge Organiser Revision + MoK Quiz | 1 hour per week |
| RS | Knowledge Organiser Revision + MoK Quiz | 1 hour per week |

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|---------|--|---------------------|
| Options | NEA – Project work/coursework based tasks Knowledge Organiser Revision + MoK Quiz (at least once per fortnight) | 3 x 1 hour per week |
|---------|--|---------------------|

3. Home Learning Timetable

At Brian Clarke Academy students are expected to complete 60 minutes of Home Learning each day on average. The suggested timetables below show how Home Learning could be organised over a 2-week period. Timetables for individual students will look different, depending on their school timetable (what day each subject is taught) and their personal preference on how to organise their time. Students will be supported in school to create personalised Home Learning timetables.

Example Key Stage 3 timetable (completing all Home Learning during the school week):

| | Day | Task 1 (30 mins) | Task 2 (30 mins) |
|---------------|-----------|------------------|------------------|
| Week B | Monday | Sparx Maths | Sparx Maths |
| | Tuesday | Reading | English recall |
| | Wednesday | Reading | Science recall |
| | Thursday | Reading | RS recall |
| | Friday | Reading | History recall |
| Week C | Monday | Sparx Maths | Sparx Maths |
| | Tuesday | Reading | English recall |
| | Wednesday | Reading | Science recall |
| | Thursday | Reading | Languagenut |
| | Friday | Reading | Geography recall |

Example Key Stage 4 timetable:

| | Day | Subject 1 (1 hour) | Subject 2 (1 hour) |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Week B & C | Monday | Maths | |
| | Tuesday | Religious Studies | |
| | Wednesday | Science | English |
| | Thursday | Option A | |
| | Friday | German | |

| | | | |
|--|----------|----------|--|
| | Saturday | Option B | |
| | Sunday | Option C | |

5. Home Learning Expectations

All students can expect:

- Each of their subject teachers to set their Home Learning in that subject on a consistent day each week/fortnight and for the homework to be due on a consistent day.
- Home Learning not to be set for the next day. Revision of substantive knowledge requires study to be conducted over an extended period of time.
- All Home Learning to be completed in students 'Masters of Knowledge Books'. This is a space for students to complete their daily revision and demonstrate their independent study.
- After a Knowledge Organiser Revision task is set and completed, to take a 'Masters of Knowledge Quiz' during the subject lesson. These low stakes assessments will allow for students to test their retention of the core material and for teachers to informally gather information.
- Work produced in the 'Masters of Knowledge Books' to be regularly reviewed by subject teachers (this is likely to take place in lessons whilst students complete their quiz).

At **Key Stage 3** students can expect:

- Home Learning to not be set to be completed over a school holiday period.
- All Home Learning to receive feedback. This will be informal (individual or whole class) and built into lesson time through the scoring of the Masters of Knowledge Quiz (or in the case of online platforms through automatic feedback built into the system).

At **Key Stage 4** students can expect:

- Home Learning could be set over a school holiday period, particularly in preparation for exams/assessments.
- Work produced in the 'Masters of Knowledge Books' to be regularly reviewed by subject teachers (this is likely to take place whilst students complete their quiz).
- All Home Learning tasks to receive feedback. This will be informal (individual or whole class) and built into lesson time through the scoring of the Masters of Knowledge Quiz (or in the case of online platforms through automatic feedback built into the system).

through automatic feedback built into the system). Any NEA based work will be marked and receive timely feedback (this could be teacher marked or self-assessed).

When setting subject specific **NEA based Home Learning tasks**, departments will need to:

- Ensure students are able to complete the task independently using their current or past learning and have a likely chance of success.
- Ensure that the tasks being set can be completed within the allocated time of 1 hour per week.
- Ensure the opportunity to copy from peers or to plagiarise is kept to a minimum.
- Consider what impact any marking required will have on teacher workload.

6. The Setting and Recording of Home Learning

We want to ensure that all students have the best possible chance to successfully complete their Home Learning in a reliable manner, and so it is vital that students have access to an accurate record of their Home Learning tasks with due dates. We also want to build an effective partnership between home and school by supporting parents/carers to be involved in their child's Home Learning.

Teachers will ensure that students record all tasks in their Masters of Knowledge book. When setting a Home Learning task students will:

- Write and underline a title "[SUBJECT] Recall" at the top of the next blank page.
- Write and underline the date (date it is set).
- Write any instructions for the task. This would normally be information about which section of the Knowledge Organisers students will be focussed on for their task e.g. "Science – Forces – Qs 3 to 7".
- Write the due date clearly.

Teachers may ask students to write down more information in preparation for their Home Learning or to include a template/information sheet.

This method of recording Home Learning allows for teachers to clearly see if a task has been completed and allows for students to have all their Home Learning tasks recorded and completed in one place. It also allows for parents to have a clear understanding of what work has been set, when it is due and when it has been completed or not.

7. Supporting Students with Home Learning

KS3 Home Learning Club runs every day, Monday-Thursday 2:45pm-3:30pm and Friday 2pm-2:45pm. All students can access Home Learning Club when they do not have Period 6 Co-Curricular sessions. The club takes place in the Library and is supervised with study support available.

At Key Stage 4 students will be encouraged to complete independent study and revision in addition to their set Home Learning tasks. KS4 Supervised Study runs every day, Monday-Thursday 2:45pm-3:30pm and Friday 2pm-2:45pm. All students can access a quiet, supervised space in the restaurant when they do not have Period 6 lessons. We will also provide students with the resources they need to make this impactful. Students will be given:

- A revision folder for each subject (cardboard wallet).
- Knowledge Organisers & Plastic Wallet.
- Access to stationary for use at home (through the Supervised Study) – plain/lined paper, flash cards, post-it notes, highlighters.

Additional support clubs and access to computers will also be provided by the Maths and German Departments to ensure fair access to online systems for all students. In addition, at KS4, subjects requiring completion of NEA work using computers will provide department-based support sessions during Period 6 lessons and/or from 3:30pm-4:30pm.

We recognise that students at the start of their BCA journey in Year 7 will not initially possess all the study skills required to make knowledge recall impactful and so will ensure that students receive clear and specific instructions, examples/models and teaching on how to successfully complete their Home Learning tasks.

Some students will require further support to ensure they are able to make the most of the knowledge recall methods used for Home Learning. The Achievement for All (AfA) department will work with identified students to offer additional instruction and practice of the study skills/techniques required. This will be particularly beneficial for Year 7 students at the start of the time at BCA and may include extra written scaffolding and/or small group support for completion of Home Learning Tasks.

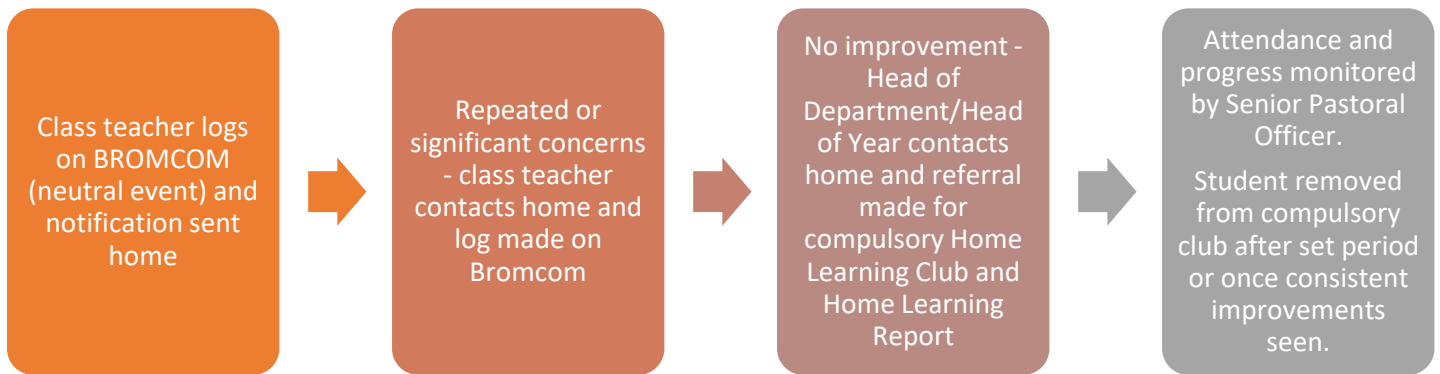
8. Systems for Monitoring and Ensuring that Home Learning is Effective

All staff have a responsibility to support in raising the profile and positivity around Home Learning at Brian Clarke Academy. Specifically:

- **Classroom teachers** have the responsibility to set Home Learning as per this policy, monitoring and tracking completion and success in Masters of Knowledge Quizzes.
- **Heads of Department** have the responsibility to ensure that there is a clear understanding of the Home Learning policy and to ensure consistency across the department in the setting, completion and tracking of progress through student voice, learning walks and Masters of Knowledge Book reviews.
- **Senior Pastoral Officers** have the responsibility to track and monitor attendance of 'compulsory club' students, liaising with class teachers or Heads of Department where necessary.
- **Form Tutors** have the responsibility to monitor completion of Home Learning by students in their forms (utilising BROMCOM to monitor neutral events) and to signpost students to appropriate support or liaise with class teachers/Heads of Department if any issues arise.
- **Heads of Year** have the responsibility to look at Home Learning practice over time for their year group, monitoring completion and attitude towards Home Learning through supporting Masters of Knowledge book reviews and student voice.
- **SLT** will check the quality and consistency of Home Learning across the school through student voice, learning walks and Masters of Knowledge Book reviews.

Masters of Knowledge Book Reviews will take place in lessons by class teachers when tasks are due, normally during the time in which students are completing their quiz. SLT/Heads of Year/Pastoral Staff will check and celebrate the quality of work in Masters of Knowledge Books on a regular basis through lesson drop-ins, whole school showcase events and at other times e.g. lunch, form time etc.

Where students do not complete Home Learning to the expected standard there is a graduated process which is followed (see additional document for further details):



Students will not be issued with detentions for non-completion of Home Learning, however detentions may be issued for non-attendance at compulsory home learning club or repeated refusal to complete Home Learning.