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Islamia Girls School/Brondesbury College "The School"

Homework Policy

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Homework is work that is set to be done outside the timetabled curriculum. It contains an element of independent study in that it is not usually directly supervised by a teacher. It is important in raising student achievement.
- 1.2 Homework enhances student learning, improves achievement and develops students' study skills and as such is an integral part of the curriculum. It requires careful planning and integration into the scheme of work of each curriculum area.
- 1.3 It is vital that parents take an active interest in their child's homework. They must ensure that the student is completing the work set, in good time, cleanly and neatly.
- 1.4 Not all homework is done at home. In fact, for some students who find it hard to work at home or for some tasks which may require resources (e.g. books, software and equipment) more readily available at School, it is necessary or desirable to carry out the task at School.

2. Aims

- 2.1 Homework enables students to:
 - 2.1.1 Consolidate and extend work covered in class or prepare for new learning activities
 - 2.1.2 Access resources not available in the classroom
 - 2.1.3 Develop research skills
 - 2.1.4 Have an opportunity for independent work
 - 2.1.5 Show progress and understanding
 - 2.1.6 Provide feedback in the evaluation of teaching
 - 2.1.7 Enhance their study skills (e.g. planning, time management, self-discipline)
 - 2.1.8 Take ownership and responsibility for learning
- 2.2 Homework allows teachers to:
 - 2.2.1 Engage parental co-operation and support
 - 2.2.2 Create channels for home-School dialogue

3. Incentives

- 3.1. High quality homework and a good work ethos should be sensitively praised in class.
- 3.2. Where appropriate, homework should be included in display work and rewarded using the house point system operated at the School. For exceptional pieces of homework, a letter may be sent home by the teacher/Form Tutor.

4. Expectations: how much and by whom?

Each curriculum area sets the following amount each week though extra homework may be given at the teacher's discretion.

National average:

Year 7 & 8	= 45-90 minutes a day
Year 9	= 60-120 minutes a day
Year 10 & 11	= 90-150 minutes a day

Key Stage 3:

Subject	Time per Week		
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Arabic	30mins	30mins	30mins
Art	30mins	30mins	30mins
English	30mins	2x30mins	2x45mins
French	30mins	30mins	30mins
Geography	30mins	30mins	30mins
History	30mins	30mins	30mins
ICT	30mins	30mins	30mins
IPSHE	Occasional	Occasional	Occasional
Maths	30mins	2x30mins	2x45mins
PE	Occasional	Occasional	Occasional
Qur'an	30mins	30mins	30mins
RE	30mins	30mins	30mins
Science	30mins	2x30mins	2x45mins

Key Stage 4:

Subject	Time per Week	
	Year 10	Year 11
English	2x60mins	2x60mins
Maths	2x60mins	2x60mins
Science	2x60mins	2x60mins
Other Subjects (3 subjects)	2x30mins	2x30mins
	2x30mins	2x30mins
	2x30mins	2x30mins

5. Sanctions

Non-completion of homework may result in detentions or a meeting with the parents if there are serious concerns.

6. Responsibilities

6.1 The role of the student:

6.1.1 To listen to the homework instructions in class

6.1.2 To copy down instructions for the task and deadline date into their Planner

6.1.3 To ensure that homework is completed and handed in to meet the deadline

6.1.4 To attempt all work to the best of their abilities

6.1.5 To inform the Class Teacher of any difficulties

6.2 The role of the Form Tutor:

6.2.1 To include homework in student mentoring where appropriate

6.2.2 To see that homework is being set and recorded

6.2.3 To check that the Planner is being signed by the parent/carer

6.2.4 To note and respond to any comments written in the Planner by parents/carers

6.3 The role of the Class Teacher:

The Class Teacher controls the direction of homework and the nature of tasks undertaken. The Teacher will:

6.3.1 Set homework according to the timetable

6.3.2 Provide the stimulus

- 6.3.3 Give full and comprehensive instructions
- 6.3.4 Set deadlines for completed work and ensure that they are met
- 6.3.5 Mark and return all homework promptly
- 6.3.6 Provide help and support
- 6.3.7 Inform the Form Tutor when problems arise
- 6.4 The role of parents/carers:

The role of the parent/carer is crucial if the student is to gain success from homework. To reinforce its value through positive feedback students will have the confidence to persevere, work hard and reach high standards of achievement. Parents can help by:

 - 6.4.1 Providing a table, chair and a quiet place to work
 - 6.4.2 Negotiating with the student when homework is to be done as a student's free play is important too
 - 6.4.3 Checking the time spent on individual tasks
 - 6.4.4 Ensuring that outside clubs do not hamper the student's quality of work and put them under undue pressure
 - 6.4.5 Checking presentation and content of all homework being returned to School
 - 6.4.6 Signing the Planner each week
 - 6.4.7 Providing the School with information about any problems through the homework diary or by contacting the School directly

7. **Monitoring**

- 7.1 Students:
 - 7.1.1 Planners will be checked by:
 - The Form Tutor (weekly).
 - Member of the Senior Leadership Team (sampled half termly).
- 7.2 Subject Staff:
 - 7.2.1 Will keep a record of homework tasks as part of lesson plan
 - 7.2.2 Make the record available to the Senior Leadership Team