



19 January 2022

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

I am writing to you about our homework policy. Information about homework, including the policy, can be found here: <http://www.futuresbanbury.org/curriculum/home-learning/>

We believe that homework is an important part of learning and to this end, our homework is designed around three principles – embed, extend and enrich. This means that students will receive homework which helps them to remember the knowledge and skills they have gained in lessons (embed), homework which builds on these skills and knowledge (extend) or homework which helps them make connections between their learning and the world they live in.

Research has shown that the quality of homework is more important than the quantity, so we won't set homework for the sake of filling time, but will instead focus on quality tasks which will enable students to make progress in each subject. For this reason, it may be that, at times, students don't receive homework but they shouldn't have long stretches of time without homework.

We want students to be able to manage their own time with regards to homework, so we don't have a homework timetable with subjects set on particular days but we have asked subjects (apart from Maths, which sets homework everyday) to not set homework which is due for the next day. We have provided a guide, which is in line with government guidelines, as to how much homework should be completed each day as well as general guidelines about how much homework should be set in subjects. These can be found in the tables below:

Year group	General time which could be spent on homework
Years 7 and 8	each subject up to 30 minutes per week
Year 9	each subject up to 45 minutes per week
Years 10 and 11	each subject up to 1 hour per week
Post-16	each subject up to 4 hours independent study per week

Year group	Guidelines for time spent daily on homework
Years 7 and 8	45 to 90 minutes per day
Year 9	1 to 2 hours per day
Years 10 and 11	1.5 to 2.5 hours per day

To support with literacy, we would like a proportion of the daily time for homework to be spent on reading. Reading is an important activity for general enrichment but it also supports progress across all subjects. We don't want reading to be seen as a chore, but where possible, we would



encourage students to read daily (fiction, non-fiction, magazines, newspapers are all good sources of reading). Our school librarian is available to support with choosing texts if this is an issue.

There are a number of things you can do to support your child in completing their homework:

- Where possible, provide a quiet space where homework can be completed (or where this is not possible, encourage your child to complete homework in the school library).
- Show an interest in homework – ask what they are doing, offer support and check deadlines.
- Encourage the completion of homework and praise your child when this is done.

We also offer support in school for students who need this – the library is available for the completion of homework after school and the school librarian is happy to support any students who need help with homework. Additionally, each department offers a drop in for those struggling with homework. The details of this are below:

Subject	Day and time for homework support
English	Friday lunchtime
Maths	Wednesday after school
Science	Tuesday after school
History/Geography	Friday lunchtime
MfL	Friday lunchtime
Art	Tuesday after school
Drama	Wednesday after school
DT/Food	Thursday after school
Business/Vocational	Monday lunchtime
Computing/IT	Wednesday lunchtime, Friday after school

Ideally, we want to encourage as many students as possible to complete homework as we know this will benefit their progress in the long-term. We ask that you support us with this.

If you have any questions or comments, I would be interested to hear them.

Thank you,

Jenny Irvine

Assistant Principal

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