

BRECON HIGH SCHOOL
YSGOL UWCHRADD ABERHONDDU



HOME LEARNING POLICY

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Home Learning Policy

Home learning enhances pupil learning, improves achievement and develops pupils' 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.

Aims

Home learning should enable:

- Consolidation and extension of work covered in class or prepare for new learning activities.
- Pupils to access resources not available in the classroom.
- Pupils to develop research skills.
- Pupils to develop independence in their learning.
- Pupils to show progress and understanding in their learning.
- Pupils to provide feedback in the evaluation of teaching.
- Pupils to enhance their study skills e.g. planning, time management and self discipline.
- Pupils to take ownership and responsibility for learning.
- Pupils to engage parental co-operation and support.
- Home school dialogue.

Home Learning tasks

Home learning can be:

- Independent learning
- Consolidation of work in class
- Practice - learning by doing
- Completion of course work assignments
- Research
- Reading
- Interviews
- Drawing
- Using ICT
- Recording

Sanctions

When home learning is not completed, teachers should initially support the pupil and ensure the task is complete. If the task is suitable and not completed, then sanctions should be used. The sanctions are as follows:

- Class teacher - discussion and negotiation with pupil, imposition e.g. detention, informing parents via communication booklet. Referral to the Head of Department/Curriculum Leader in the case of persistent offender.
- Head of Department/Curriculum Leader - discussion and negotiation with referred pupil, imposition e.g. detention, informing parents by diary. Letter to parents if necessary. Referral to the Progress and Guidance Manager in the case of persistent offender.

- Tutors - through weekly monitoring, identifying pupils with home learning problems across several curriculum areas- discussion and negotiation with pupil, imposition e.g. detention, informing parents in writing. Letter to parents if necessary. Referral to the Progress and Guidance Manager in the case of persistent offender.
- Progress and Guidance Manager - discussion and negotiation with referred pupil, imposition e.g. detention, informing parents in writing. Letter to parents if necessary. Meeting with parents if necessary. Refers pupil to Senior Leadership Team if necessary in the case of a persistent offender.
- At all stages above parents must be informed.

Incentives

High quality home learning and a good work ethos should be sensitively praised in class. Recognising and praising the efforts of pupils is important and where appropriate, home learning should be included in display work. Merits, Positive Achievement notes and rewards for achievement and sustained effort may be awarded for good home learning. For exceptional pieces of home learning, a department letter may be sent home.

Responsibilities

The role of the pupil

- To listen to home learning instructions in class.
- To note instructions for the task and access the “Show My Homework” account for details of the task(s) and deadline date as required.
- To ensure that home learning is completed and handed in to meet the deadline.
- To attempt all work and give their best.
- To inform the class teacher of any difficulties.

The role of the Form Tutor

- To include home learning in pupil mentoring where appropriate.
- To monitor that home learning is being recorded and completed.
- To note and respond to any comments written in the communication booklet by parents.
- To share concerns with the Progress and Guidance Manager.

The role of the Class Teacher

The class teacher controls the direction of home learning and the nature of tasks undertaken. The teacher will:

- Set home learning according to the policy.
- Provide the stimulus.
- Give full and comprehensive instructions.
- Set deadlines for completed work and ensure that they are met.

- Mark and return marked work within an appropriate timeframe after the due date or by the next lesson.
- Provide help and support.
- Inform the Head of Department/Curriculum Leader or Progress and Guidance Manager as appropriate, when problems arise.

The role of Support Staff

To provide lunchtime opportunities for independent study and home learning support whenever possible under the direction of the ALENCO.

The role of the Curriculum Leader

- To seek to enhance the quality of home learning set within their curriculum area.
- To monitor and evaluate the home learning policy within their curriculum area.
- To carry out and review Departmental listening to learner activities on views about Home Learning.

The role of the Progress and Guidance Manager

- To monitor and evaluate the school home learning policy across their year group.
- To carry out and review Year Group listening to learner activities on views about Home Learning.

The role of the Senior Leadership Team

- To provide staff, pupils and parents with the necessary home learning documentation.
- To develop classroom practice to enhance home learning across the school.
- To review annually the school home learning policy.
- To monitor and evaluate the school home learning policy.
- To carry out and review Whole School listening to learner activities on views about Home Learning.

The role of the Parents

The role of the parent is crucial if a child is to gain success from home learning. To reinforce its value through positive feedback that will give students the confidence to persevere, work hard and reach high standards of achievement.

Parents can assist by:

- Providing a table, chair and a quiet place to work.
- Negotiating with the student when home learning is to be done as a student's free time is important too.
- Checking the time spent on individual tasks.

- Ensuring that time for home learning is provided alongside outside clubs so that a child is not under undue pressure but has a responsible attitude to home learning.
- Checking presentation and content of all home learning being returned to school.
- Checking the communication booklet.
- Providing the school with information about any problems by contacting the school.

Monitoring

Pupils

Completion of Home Learning tasks will be checked by parents through the “Show My Homework” App.

Subject Staff

Will keep a record of all home learning tasks set and marked.

Make the record available to the Head of Department/Curriculum Leader.

Present examples of home learning as requested in department monitoring.

Head of Department/Curriculum Leader

Will sample and monitor home learning records in their curriculum area.

Will look at examples of home learning and talk to pupils and staff using home learning monitoring criteria.

Will evaluate and update any departmental improvement plan.

Progress and Guidance Manager

Will sample and monitor home learning records across their year group.

Will look at examples of home learning and talk to pupils and staff using home learning monitoring criteria across their year group.

Will evaluate and update any year group action plan.

Senior Leadership Team

Will sample and monitor home learning records across the school.

Will look at examples of home learning and talk to pupils, parents and staff using home learning monitoring criteria across the school.

Will evaluate and update any school improvement plan.