Bradley Stoke Community School

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BSCS/24-004

12th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 8 - Subject Knowledge Organisers and Homework

From Monday 16th September, teachers will begin setting homework for all students in Year 8. Here at BSCS we value the important role homework plays in the learning, progress and development of our young people and want to share some important information. We haven't set homework during the first two weeks to allow students to get back into routines after the summer break.

Your child will also be given a printed copy of the Subject Knowledge Organiser (SKO) booklet for Terms 1 and 2. The SKO booklets contain the key knowledge your child will be learning in lessons over the next two terms. You can also find a digital copy of the booklets on our website.

Learning outside of the classroom allows our students to build resilience and develop strong working habits throughout their time at school. Evidence published by the Education Endowment Foundation shows that active engagement with homework at secondary school could add an additional five months of progress onto each students' learning, as well as improving academic outcomes. Homework provides our students with an opportunity to practise, consolidate and develop the learning that has taken place in the classroom.

How Homework is set

All Homework will be set on Arbor. Students will have weekly homework for English, maths, science and languages; there will fortnightly homework for religious studies, geography, history and computing. In addition to the regular homework, students will have one project per term for other subjects. For example, Term 1 is an art project and Term 2 will be a drama project (see the table below).
Where possible, homework will be set on the days shown in the timetable below, and students will have a week to complete it. Due to the timetable, there may be some subjects that set on different days, but students will always be given adequate time to complete the assigned work. We suggest homework is completed on the night it is set but understand that this isn't always possible.

Homework expectations

We appreciate that each student works differently and that the time taken to complete a task may vary significantly from student to student. For this reason, we have introduced **time-based activities**. Students will now be asked to **spend a specific amount of time working on homework, dependent on their year group**. With each student now spending the same amount of time on their homework, no individual should feel overwhelmed or under-challenged with the work set.

If your child has an EHCP and is struggling with the homework set, please contact their keyworker so that we can discuss an adapted programme. If you child is having difficulty with homework but does not have a keyworker, please contact their tutor or Head of Year.

Kind regards,

Martin Randall

Martin Randall
Associate Assistant Headteacher – Literacy
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Year 8 Homework timetable.

This timetable is the minimum requirement, taking into account parent feedback. We know many students will want to challenge themselves and can use the Subject Knowledge Organisers for self-quizzing to consolidate knowledge. Oak Academy Oak National Academy Online Classroom (thenational.academy) is another great resource where students can access additional home learning tasks.

Week 1				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Maths (PRY) (20 - 30 minutes)	English (20- 30 minutes)	History (15 minutes) Computing (15 minutes)	Science* (20 minutes)	Languages (20 minutes)
Project (30 minutes per week)				

Week 2				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Maths (BGO) (20-30 minutes)	English (20- 30 minutes)	Geography (15 minutes) Religious Studies (15 minutes)	Science* (20 minutes)	Languages (20 minutes)
Project (30 minutes per week)				

Projects (30 mins per week):

Term 1	Art
Term 2	Drama
Term 3	Product Design
Term 4	Reading Challenge
Term 5	Physical Education
Term 6	Music