

## Homework - The Birchwood Way

### Overview

Our vision is to cultivate a learning environment in which students are given frequent and purposeful home learning opportunities to consolidate their knowledge and enrich their broader understanding of the topics covered in class.

At Birchwood Community High School, we recognise that regular, well-planned homework can:

- Elevate learning and ensure that students make maximum progress in their academic and social development.
- Help students to develop strategies for transferring key information to their long-term memory.
- Develop good work habits and self-discipline for the future.
- Help parents/carers gain insight into their child's schoolwork and promote a partnership between home and school.

### Rationale for change

To support our 'Disconnect to Reconnect' campaign, and in response to parental feedback, we have reviewed the frequency of our online homework and the changes below have been made.

Please be aware that any apps used for homework purposes are designed to be completed on laptops/computers not mobile phones. We appreciate that not all students will have access to laptops or computers at home therefore, we have built in many opportunities for students to complete online homework in school during enrichment or at the end of the school day. Starting from September, we are opening our ICT block every day until 16.15 to support with this.

### Key Stage 3

Subject	Frequency	Changes for 2024-25
<b>Maths</b>	Weekly SPARX online homework (50 minutes)	Reduced by 10 minutes
<b>English</b>	Bi-weekly written Knowledge Organiser and vocabulary list Quiz Revision (50 min)	Moved from weekly to bi-weekly
<b>Science</b>	Bi-Weekly Online revision homework (30 min)	Moved from weekly to bi-weekly
<b>Global Awareness</b>	<b>Geography:</b> EduCake Online revision homework every 1-3 weeks (15 min) <b>EPR:</b> Half Termly Knowledge Organiser Revision (60 min) <b>History:</b> Half Termly Knowledge Organiser Revision (60 min) <b>MFL:</b> Every 2 weeks Online homework (30 min)	Geography – online homework reduced EPR & History – moved to once per half term MFL – online homework reduced
<b>DCP</b>	Half termly creative projects	Frequency reduced
<b>Personal Development</b>	Half Termly Projects Reading Record	New to encourage more reading at home
<b>Computer Science</b>	Revision homework before KaSTs	Moved from half termly to twice per year
<b>PE</b>	Written Fitness and Wellbeing Log	New to encourage more fitness and wellbeing at home and to support mental health
<b>Online content:</b>	80-100 minutes a week (Approximately 20 minutes per school night) This has reduced from approximately 180 minutes per week. This can be completed in school during enrichment or after school.	

### Key Stage 4

This is very much dependent upon their option choices. As you can see below, we have adapted the frequency, but this will naturally grow as the work becomes more challenging over time. The same guidelines apply as with KS3, all apps are expected to be opened on laptops or computers and there is an expectation that mobile phones are put away whilst homework is being complete to avoid any distractions.

<b>Maths</b>	SPARX online 50 minutes per week Weekly written past papers (60-90 min) per week in the build up to exams
<b>English</b>	Written Knowledge Organiser and vocabulary list Quiz Revision (50 min) Extended writing in the build up to exams (60 min)
<b>Science</b>	Educake online weekly homework (30 minutes) <i>“Pre-Learn” and “Midway” written homework for each Topic (10 min each)</i>
<b>Global Awareness</b>	<b>History:</b> Written homework week (45-60 min) <b>EPR:</b> Written homework every two weeks. (60 min) <b>Geography:</b> Fortnightly online and written homework (30 min) <b>MFL:</b> Weekly online homework (30 minutes)
<b>DCP</b>	<b>Art &amp; Textiles:</b> Practical work set every two weeks (2-3 hours of work) <b>Food:</b> Once a week written homework (60 min) <b>Drama:</b> Once a week written homework (60 min) <b>Music:</b> Weekly listening Practice (30 min) and Coursework (60 min) <b>Dance:</b> Once a week written homework (60 min) <b>Engineering:</b> Weekly completion of written booklets (45 min) <i>Additional coursework &amp; revision at Key points in the Year.</i>
<b>CBM</b>	<b>Computer Science:</b> Weekly computer programming practice (45 min) & fortnightly online revision tasks in Year 11 (60 mins) <b>Enterprise:</b> Fortnightly Written tasks or during coursework catch up tasks and sessions <b>iMedia:</b> Online and question booklet revision every 2 weeks (60 min) <i>Additional coursework &amp; revision at Key points in the Year.</i>
<b>PE</b>	Weekly completion of homework tasks in booklets (20-30 minutes) <i>Students should attend extra-curricular activities in their chosen sports.</i>
<b>Online content:</b>	Dependent on students’ Option Choices this can range from 2-4 hours of online homework each week (20-50 minutes per school night) This can be completed in school during enrichment or after school.