

# SIR GRAHAM BALFOUR MAT



## **HOMEWORK POLICY for Sir Graham Balfour School**

# SIR GRAHAM BALFOUR MAT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

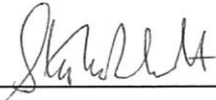
## CHANGE CONTROL

Date	Issue	Details of change
07/04/2017	0.a	Initial Draft
30/06/2017	0.b	Updated following review by Trustees
19/07/2017	1.0	Updated following approval at Board Meeting 18/07/2017
29/11/2018	2.0	Updated following approval at Board Meeting 28/11/2018

## AUTHORISATION

Approved at Board Meeting 28/11/2018

Signed:



28-11-2018

Chair of Board

Date

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## Introduction

Sir Graham Balfour Multi Academy Trust (SGBMAT) supports the view that homework makes a valuable contribution to the education and development of children. Homework refers to tasks given to pupils by their teachers to be completed outside of usual lessons and research by the Education Endowment Foundation shows that the impact of homework on learning is consistently positive.

## 1. Aim

1.1 For all schools in the SGBMAT the purpose of homework is to:

- Provide opportunities for students to work independently and to take responsibility for organising their work.
- Help students recognise the link between good study habits and higher standards of achievement.
- Check that students have understood class work.
- Consolidate or extend work covered in school and improve the students' ability to retain and recall knowledge and understanding.
- Prepare for future lessons.
- Give time for more extensive coverage of the curriculum, through integrated planning of class work and homework.
- Make more effective use of lessons by focusing on those activities, which require more direct teaching, with other tasks, not dependent on the teacher, being set for homework.
- Improve students' attitudes to learning.
- Improve students' organisational and study skills.
- Raise the standard of achievement.
- Help parents understand what their children are learning in school and to encourage them to participate in that learning.

1.2 The key elements of the Homework Policy at each school in the SGBMAT should uphold the aims of homework as outlined above.

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## 2. Key Elements

At Sir Graham Balfour School the key elements of homework policy are as follows:

### 2.1 Department Homework Policy

Each curriculum area is responsible for developing and implementing a departmental homework policy and practice. The Policy should:

- Give clear guidance on procedures for setting, marking and returning homework.
- Identify the frequency, quantity and the amount of time students will spend on homework, as agreed with the Leadership Group of each Academy. The frequency of homework set is dependent upon the curriculum share each subject has – the more hours of any given subject a student receives, then more frequently will homework be set.
- Contain suggestions in the type of tasks that should be set.
- Identify who will monitor and evaluate the implementation of the policy.
- Identify the procedure for monitoring that students complete homework, and what to do if homework is not completed.
- Identify how students and their parents will be informed of departmental procedure concerning homework.

### 2.2 Setting and Marking Homework

Teachers should:

- Plan homework as an integral part of the curriculum.
- Set tasks that can be completed within the allocated time and that are as far as possible matched to the abilities of students.
- Set homework tasks which allow students to embed skills or knowledge or which require them to seek out and then demonstrate new knowledge. Homework tasks need careful thought and should provide the same or similar quality learning as do classwork tasks.
- Position the setting of homework so that the task sits within the context of the topic being studied.
- Ensure that extended homeworks/controlled assessment are monitored rigorously and regularly.
- Make sure that students have a clear understanding of what the homework is and direct them to check the Homework Diary on the Gateway or contact the teacher directly should further guidance be required.
- Give a reasonable time for its completion.
- Ensure that work is marked in accordance with the school and departmental policy.
- Provide feedback to students on their progress, but which also gives very clear and apposite guidance on what they need to do to improve.

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### **2.3 Informing Students and Parents**

All homeworks set, without exception, should be posted to the Homework Diary Section of the Gateway, and are available for students and parents to see. The nature of the task, its due date and any additional notes are posted. Parents are strongly encouraged to log on and check this on a regular basis. This is so clear communication regarding deadlines, structure and expected standards are clear to all.

### **2.4 Homework Timetable**

In Y7 and Y8 homework is expected to last a minimum of 30 minutes for each subject. In Y9 45 minutes are set and in Y10 and Y11 every subject sets homework lasting up to the equivalent of two hours each per week. Faculties are given the freedom to set homework at appropriate points in the curriculum and there is therefore no set homework timetable. In Y12 and 13 students should be set a suitable quantity of independent study lasting up to the equivalent of five hours per subject per week.

### **3. Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Staffing and Standards Sub-committee of the SGB MAT Board will formally review this policy every 2 years or more frequently if circumstances or legislation suggest it is appropriate.