

**BECKFOOT  
THORNTON  
SCHOOL**



# **HOMework**

**A Guide for Families**



# Homework at Beckfoot Thornton

## In this homework guide:

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## Homework principles

At Beckfoot Thornton we believe that homework helps develop our students to become **Knowledgeable and Expert Learners** by helping them to build effective study habits, develop resilience and independence.

Like every activity we do in school, we only get better if we practice. Our homework strategy does this by giving students the opportunity to practice the knowledge and skills they will learn in class. We do this through a range of activities to test their memory, including our nine study skills.

The Education Endowment Foundation research shows that effective Home Learning can improve students' progress by 5-6 months. This means that homework is an important part of our curriculum, an entitlement, and an expectation of every student.



**By Year 11, a student who regularly completed their homework could be 2.5 years ahead of their peers who did not!**



# Our homework policy

- Homework will be set by class teachers in class. This may be on various platforms but will be recorded on our main method of school communication: **Class Charts**.
- Families can check what homework has been set and submitted on Class Charts. Instructions on how to do this can be found on the school website.
- Subjects will have a specified date to set and collect homework (the minimum time to complete each piece of work is 1 week).
- Students will need to either complete work on the identified platform e.g. **Sparx Maths** or **Quizziz**, or hand in work to the class teacher on the due date. They should mark their work as submitted on Class Charts once completed.
- Teachers will check that homework has been done and achievement points awarded. Excellent pieces will be nominated for Work of the Week each week. Various additional rewards will be allocated for exemplary attitudes to homework throughout the year.
- Families will be notified if students do not do their homework through Class Charts – if you do not have the app, please make sure that you download this onto your mobile device.



# Homework at Key Stage Three

Your child will receive up to 8 pieces of homework each week.

## Homework frequency for different subjects:

<b>English</b>	one a week	<b>Art</b>	four per term
<b>Maths</b>	one a week	<b>Computing</b>	four per term
<b>Science</b>	one a week	<b>Music</b>	four per term
<b>French/German</b>	one a week	<b>REW</b>	four per term
<b>Geography</b>	one a week	<b>Technology &amp; Food</b>	four per term
<b>History</b>	one a week		

Your child's homework will always be recorded on **Class Charts** and at Key Stage 3, will prioritise **retrieval practice**. However, they may be required to use various methods, and to work on different platforms. This is to ensure their homework activities effectively complement their curriculum subjects. Here is an overview of the activities your child may be asked to complete, and the platforms they will have access to.

## Homework activities at Key Stage Three:

<b>English</b>	Quizziz, plus Study Skill activities and booklets.
<b>Maths</b>	Sparx Maths.
<b>Science</b>	Kerboodle, plus Study Skills activities.
<b>French/German</b>	Quizziz, key vocabulary from Knowledge Organisers.
<b>Geography</b>	Quizziz and Teams activities.
<b>History</b>	Quizziz.
<b>Art</b>	Booklets for each unit of work.
<b>Computing</b>	Quizziz.
<b>Music</b>	Quizziz.
<b>REW</b>	Quizziz and Teams activities.
<b>Technology &amp; Food</b>	Booklets for each unit of work.

➤ Students can access homework platforms via the [Learning Dashboards](#).

# Homework at Key Stage Four

Your child will receive up to 8 pieces of homework each week.

## Homework frequency for different subjects:

<b>English</b>	one a week	<b>Geography</b>	one a week
<b>Maths</b>	one a week	<b>History</b>	one a week
<b>Science</b>	three per week	<b>Photography</b>	one a week
<b>Art</b>	one a week	<b>Religious Studies</b>	four per term
<b>ASDAN</b>	one a week	<b>Voc. Business</b>	one a week
<b>Business</b>	one a week	<b>Voc. Engineering</b>	one a week
<b>Computer Science</b>	one a week	<b>Voc. Hospitality</b>	one a week
<b>Design Tech.</b>	one a week	<b>Voc. IT</b>	one a week
<b>French/German</b>	one a week	<b>Voc. Sport</b>	one a week

## Our curriculum enables our students to be...



### Future Ready Learners

We want you to be someone who is excited about what their future could hold and knows how to get ready for it.



### Knowledgeable & Expert Learners

We want you to be a learner who can build their own knowledge independently as well as getting the best out of every lesson.



### Confident Communicators

We want you to be confident about your ideas and be able to get these across well by speaking, reading and writing in lots of different situations.



### Committed Community Contributors

We want you to be a committed member of your community who takes positive action that makes you proud.

# Homework at Key Stage Four

Your child's homework will always be recorded on **Class Charts** and at Key Stage 4, will prioritise **exam practice**. Here is an overview of the activities they may be asked to complete, and the different platforms they will have access to.

<b>English</b>	Quizziz, Study Skill activities, exam practice.
<b>Maths</b>	Sparx Maths.
<b>Science</b>	Kerboodle, study skill activities, exam practice.
<b>Art</b>	Booklets for each unit of work.
<b>ASDAN</b>	Completing additional tasks as directed.
<b>Business</b>	Quizziz, Teams, exam practice.
<b>Computer Science</b>	Quizziz and Smart Revise.
<b>Design Technology</b>	Booklets for each unit of work.
<b>French/German</b>	ActiveHub.
<b>Geography</b>	Quizziz/Teams, Study Skill activities, exam practice
<b>History</b>	Quizziz, exam practice.
<b>Photography</b>	Booklets for each unit of work.
<b>Religious Studies</b>	Quizziz and Teams.
<b>Vocational Business</b>	Quizziz, Teams, exam practice.
<b>Vocational Engineering</b>	Booklets for each unit of work.
<b>Vocational Hospitality</b>	Booklets for each unit of work.
<b>Vocational IT</b>	Booklets for each unit of work.
<b>Vocational Sport</b>	Preparation for exams via Quizziz.

➤ Students can access homework platforms via the [Learning Dashboards](#).

# Frequently asked questions

## **Where do I find the instructions of what the task is and when it has to be completed by?**

- Families and students can log on to Class Charts. This not only allows you to see what homework has been set and submitted but also the teachers' instructions on how to do the task.

## **I don't know what study skills are?**

- The 9 study skills we use, can be found on the school website along with guidance on how to use each study skill as an independent learning strategy.

## **How many tasks will they be set?**

- Students will receive up to 8 pieces of homework a week. These will all include retrieval practice and/or vocabulary support. Many will include independent application of what students have learnt in class.
- At KS3 we prioritise retrieval practice.
- At KS4 we prioritise exam practice.
- Some students may want to complete their homework tasks on the day that it is set, others may want to do more pieces on one night because of a sporting commitment for example. This is a personal decision and one that needs to work for each student.

## **What happens if my child misses a homework?**

- Students will all be expected to complete all homework set and will be given achievement points when they do so.
- Those who complete all homework activities on time and to a high enough standard will receive an additional 5 reward points each week.
- We will regularly communicate to students the benefits of completing homework and will reward those who do.
- We currently do not carry out sanctions for failing to complete homework as lost learning opportunities already have a negative effect on students. However, our processes are under continual review – if this were to change in the future, we would notify families and students well in advance of any changes.

**If you have any questions or concerns regarding homework, please contact the school with full details of the issue by emailing [office@beckfootthornton.org](mailto:office@beckfootthornton.org)**

# Our 9 Study Skills

## Transform it



Turn **facts** into **images**. Then use the images to rewrite the facts.

## Recreate it



Recreate **diagrams, maps** or **images** – first by copying from the sheet, then moving onto recalling entirely from memory.

## Prioritise it



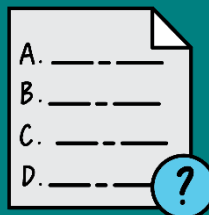
Identify the **top three** most important pieces of content on the sheet – **justify** your reasons (explain why).

## Be a photocopier



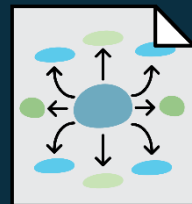
On a blank piece of paper **recreate** as much of the organiser as you can. Then **green pen** it by using the original.

## Quiz it



Write yourself a **quiz** based on the KO. Come back to it another day and see if you can answer it from memory. **Red pen** your answers.

## Mind-map it



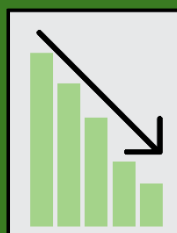
Choose a section of the KO to **mind-map** from memory. Add categories, colour, questions and layers of thinking.

## Connect it



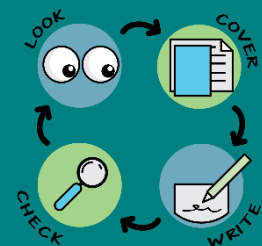
Turn facts into images. Then use the images to rewrite the facts

## Summarise it



**Summarise** the content into single words. The use these words to rewrite the content.

## Look, Cover, Write, Check



Choose a section and **look**, trying to remember it. **Cover** it up. **Write** it out. **Check** what you missed and add it in **green pen**.