



# The Barlow RC High School & Specialist Science College

*"If you believe you can achieve!"*

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ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE - HIGH STANDARDS & EXPECTATIONS - SUCCESSFUL, SAFE, HAPPY STUDENTS

15<sup>th</sup> Sep 23

Dear Parent/Carer

Homework, as you know, is an essential to support your son/daughter's progress in school. It is proven that working independently in support of school studies can boost a child's progress by up to 6 months (Education Endowment Foundation) and that the greatest gains are made when homework is completed via a digital platform. With this in mind, here at the Barlow, we have decided to approach homework differently this year. In the past, we have produced a homework timetable and informed parents/guardians of the evenings and length of task to expect from each subject area. This no longer fits suits our homework programme and schedule. Instead of this, we have decided to send you an outline of what homework to expect on a weekly basis which you will find below.

The time allocated is what you should expect as a minimum from each subject area. The tasks set should take this amount of time and all pupils should be engaged with tasks from each of their subject areas weekly.

Online platforms usually require a username and password, all of these will be provided to pupils when homework is set by their class teachers and they will be written in their journal. If your son/daughter is struggling to access a platform please contact myself or their class teacher and we will endeavour to support.

In addition, to help support pupils with their homework, the core subjects English, Maths and Science will be running homework clubs every lunchtime. During this time there will be computers available and there will be subject specific staff available to support. There will also be an additional homework club available in the library Monday - Friday at lunchtime and from 3-3.30 after school. Furthermore, if your son/daughter is struggling to finish their homework on time, they should speak to their class teacher in advance of the homework due date or join one of the homework clubs for support.

In line with school policy, sanctions will be put in place if three homework activities in a row have not been completed or handed in on time. Class teachers will contact home if pupils have not completed their homework on two occasions in a row.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Turner

Assistant Headteacher

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Subject	Time Allocated Weekly	Homework Set
Maths	3 twenty-minute sessions per week	Tassomai – online platform where the teacher sets challenges that need to be completed every week by all pupils depending on their starting points. The system will adapt the work according to each pupil's knowledge and understanding of the topic. Class teachers monitor and adapt lessons accordingly on a weekly basis.
Science	3 twenty-minute sessions per week	Tassomai – see above
English	3 twenty-minute sessions per week  20- 30 minutes per week	Tassomai – see above  Reading homework – pupils can read anything. They all should have their own reading book from the library but they are also welcome to read current affairs in blogs, newspapers or websites or any other text that they are interested in. The reading homework should be signed off by parents in their reading log or homework diary.
RE	30 minutes per week.	Half termly project homework that will be set on Teams. These tend to be research based or creative pieces.
History	30 minutes	Knowledge Tests – linked to the curriculum taught in lessons.  Historical Enquiry work – pupils are posed a question and they must come up with an answer using evidence.
Geography	30 minutes	Knowledge Tests – linked to the curriculum taught in lessons.  Research tasks – linked to the curriculum taught in class.  Research into current affairs linked to geography – wider knowledge.

Languages	30 minutes	Vocabulary learning.
DT	30 minutes	Homework linked to Project work. Could be research, health and safety or design.
IT	30 minutes	IDEA.org.uk - the Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award, known as IDEA, is an international award-winning programme that helps pupils to develop and demonstrate their digital skills. Pupils can work independently on the award and it can be used in the future to support their UCAS forms. The teacher checks their progress weekly.
Art/Music/Drama	When needed to support the curriculum – 30 minutes	Research tasks linked to composers, artists or playwrights being studied.