



**British International School
of Timisoara**

We Provide the Foundation on Which Our Children Can Flourish

School Policies

Primary School Homework Policy

Approved by:	School Director	Date: August 2021
Last reviewed by:	School Leadership Team	Date: August 2024
Next reviewed by:	School Leadership Team	Date: August 2025

Primary School Homework policy

General

The British International School of Timisoara (BIST) is a coeducational private school following a British based curriculum and accepting children aged between 4 and 18.

The British International School of Timisoara will offer its students an international experience through a British-based curriculum adhering to the guidelines of the Department for Education in England, Council of British International School and assessed by Cambridge Assessment International Education. Our qualified, internationally experienced and dynamic educators will teach all subjects in English, with the exception of the lessons of Romanian, which are taught by qualified and engaging local teachers.

Our Vision

*We provide the Foundation on which our Children can Flourish
Inspiring our students to Learn and Live with Purpose*

Our Mission

Building a community of learners where students are given meaningful opportunities to learn, experience, grow, succeed and excel in all areas of their academic and personal development

Our Core Values

*We Think, We Explore and We Learn
We Listen, We Respect and We Care
We Speak Up, We Participate and We Strive*

At BIST we want to ensure that all members of our community understand and adhere to our school ethos and values. Rules and regulations will be in place to protect all members of the community and to give everyone equal opportunities for development and progress.

Introduction

Homework is an important part of our school programme and it is meant to be meaningful and support the students with consolidating concepts studied in the classroom, exploring, practising and gaining new knowledge and skills. Completing homework to a good standard should lead to enhanced learning and support progress overall. All children are expected to complete their homework as required by the teacher or ask for support when they struggle with the work.

The purpose of this policy is to set out the rationale, guidelines and expectations for setting and assessing student homework at BIST.

Overview

Homework is set by class teachers on a weekly basis in accordance with the BIST homework schedule outlined below. It is an integral, planned part of the curriculum and the learning experiences of our students. It is set by the class teachers and forms part of the overall curriculum and learning opportunities experienced by each student enrolled at BIST. Our policy is based on guidelines developed by the Department for Education which were, in turn, based on good practice observed in successful schools in England.

Primary School Homework policy

Homework is intended to reinforce work completed in class, and in general should be completed by students at home or in supervised 'homework clubs'. We require students to complete homework for a variety of reasons: we wish them to see studying as part of a mindset that goes beyond the four walls of the school; we wish them to reinforce their learning in school by working at home; we wish to involve parents in the education of their children; we wish to assist our students in developing self-discipline and self-organisation; and we wish students to relate their life and experiences at home to their work at school. Homework should be a positive experience for pupils and not detract from their family life. There should still be time at the end of the day for children to relax, play and spend time with their family.

Homework will be related to schoolwork and will be differentiated (where possible) to ensure it is achievable by all pupils without additional input from any adult. It should not be necessary for parents to teach their children in order for the homework to be achieved, but it is hoped that parents will take an interest in the tasks. These tasks will also inform parents as to the nature of the work going on in class and the achievement levels of their children.

Homework may, amongst other things, be reinforcement of objectives learned in class, it may be gathering information for using in a lesson, or it may be the completion of work unfinished in class. There should always be a purpose to homework and it is never given out as a 'time-filler'.

Up until 2012 the DfE advised time guidelines for children in primary schools :

Years 1 and 2: 1 hour per week

Years 3 and 4: 1.5 hours per week

Years 5 and 6: 30 minutes per day

We recommend that parents recognise this and our expectations should never exceed these recommendations. This time allocation should include children's self reading for pleasure.

If students are struggling to complete set homework tasks at home within the given time frame, they should be commended for trying and be allowed to stop. It is helpful for parents to communicate this to the relevant teacher via an email to explain the circumstances whereby the homework has not been able to be completed.

Setting Homework

We are aware that many of our children have busy lives and many commitments after school. Consequently, homework will be set by teachers at an agreed time each week, with a consistent deadline, to give pupils sufficient time to complete it. For example, all homework tasks may be set on Wednesday with the deadline on Monday. Each year group will decide its homework schedule and should be consistent with timing and content.

KS1

Homework is to be sent home weekly (on an agreed day within the year group)
All students will receive a physical homework folder containing the week's assignments and should directly relate to the week's topics, reinforcing what is learned in class.

Primary School Homework policy

Content:

- One piece of Maths
- One piece of English (Phonics or Grammar)
- Handwriting practice worksheet
- Spelling list

Additional homework (eg half termly project) may also be sent home occasionally at the class teacher's discretion.

Library Books:

Each student will be assigned one levelled book and can choose an additional reading book to be read to them by their parents.

KS2

Homework is to be sent home weekly (on an agreed day within the year group)

Content:

- **English**
Two pieces of English homework will be set each week – One spelling plus one other task (SPAG, writing, or reading comprehension)
Students will receive Cambridge textbooks. An activity will be assigned each week from the book or a worksheet from Classroom Secrets/Twinkl- uploaded onto Seesaw.
- **Maths**
Three pieces of maths homework will be set each week – One fluency/re-visit plus two others linked to the week's learning.
Students will receive Cambridge textbooks. Pages or activities will be assigned each week from the books and/or Classroom Secrets/Twinkl worksheets - uploaded onto Seesaw
- **Reading**
Children should read regularly – at least 10 minutes per day.
Each student will have a reading diary where parents (LKS2) or children (UKS2) record a reading log.
Reading diaries should be signed by the parent and teacher each week.

Additional homework (eg. half termly project) may also be sent home occasionally at the class teacher's discretion.

Library Books:

Each student will be assigned one levelled book (Unless they are a 'free reader' – having completed the reading scheme) and can choose an additional reading book to take home to read for pleasure. A note of which books are taken out and returned to the library should be kept for each student.

Borrowing Books (KS1 and KS2)

Library books will be sent home every week and must be returned to school each week (day to be agreed within the year group). In order to borrow a book from the library, a parent agreement form must be signed. In the event of damaging or losing a book, it must be replaced by the parent or a monetary contribution made to its replacement.

Books should be signed out of the library using a shared document and should also be signed back in.

Primary School Homework policy

Review

This policy will be reviewed by members of the School Leadership Team on a yearly basis, or every time there is a change in the procedure.