



Central Foundation Boys' School

Headteacher's Newsletter 3rd October 2013

3rd Edition

Homework

Homework is an important part of the study programme for each student. Every student has a homework timetable that sets out on which days homework will be set. All students should write the homework for each day in their planner.

In addition to the homework being placed into the planner all homeworks also appear on the school's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). The VLE can be accessed through the school's website. Parents/students require a password to access the VLE. All students have been provided with the password. If this has been forgotten please contact Ms Piper either on 02072533741 ext 728 or email piperd@cfbs.islington.sch.uk who will enable the password to be set with immediate effect. The VLE contains details of the homework and in many cases all the materials/ resources required for the homework. It is our intention that the VLE will contain all of the resources needed. It takes some time to achieve this but we are well on the way to achieving this aim. Where the resources are not on the VLE they are provided to the students in their lessons.

We aim for each homework for each subject to take 45 minutes in Years 7/8. In Year 9 to 11 each homework should take between 60 and 90 minutes. Obviously there is some variation in this.

It works best for students if they have set a time each day when they do the work. We

would recommend that the homework is completed in the late afternoon/early evening rather than leaving it until late at night.. The students should aim to make homework and home study a habit and this is best achieved by the development of routine.

Teachers keep records of homework completion and this information is provided to you each term through the student's report. If a serious issue develops of a student not completing homework, parents will be contacted by the Head of Year to discuss that matter and agree strategies for ensuring that the homework is completed.

We run homework support in Room 26 on Monday to Friday from 3:15 to 4:15. All students are welcome to attend.

Punctuality

The attendance of students at Central Foundation is excellent but for some students punctuality needs to be improved.

Even if the students are only a few minutes late they will have missed important parts of their education. Twice a week they will have an assembly starting at 8:55 and on the other three days they will have a tutor period at which important aspects of the curriculum such as ethics, literacy and learning skills are being taught.

We are having a drive to eliminate students being late to school. In discussions with

those students who are late we have identified that a key reason for the lateness is that the students are aiming to arrive at school for 8:55. As this is when the school day starts, the students are not leaving any margin for error resulting from issues such as transport delays.

In response to this we are asking all students to aim to arrive at school for 8:45. Parents and carers can support us in this drive for perfect punctuality. Routine is very important here. The students need to learn to organise themselves so that they can get out of the house at the same time each day that then allows them to be on time to school.

Headteacher's Award

Each week an award is given to a student or a group of students who have shown exceptional achievement in an aspect of school life or have in some other way displayed the ethos and character that we look to develop in all of our students.

This term the award has been made to:

Liam Elliot-Brady (Year 8) whose 100 word story won the Young Writers national creative writing competition.

Abiel Mehreteab (Year 12) who achieved 3 A*s, 2 As, 3 Bs and 2 Cs in his GCSEs within one year of arriving in the UK. He is currently studying Physics, Chemistry and Further Maths at A Level.

Nabil Rahman (Year 11) for exceptional progress in Maths from Year 7 to Year 10, where he has already achieved an A* grade.

Year 11 Success Evening

Last Tuesday over 100 families attended the Year 11 Success Evening. At this evening we provide information on the year ahead for the Year 11 students in the run up to the completion of their GCSEs.

One of the reasons for the exceptional success of our students is the support that the students and the school receives from the students' parents. The success evening looked in particular at the English, Maths and Science curriculum and the actions needed to be taken by the students to ensure they are successful in these areas. Part of the session was focused on study skills that the students should be using as they revise for exams. The final part of the evening looked beyond Year 11 to the qualifications that the students could study in the Sixth Form.

Staff Changes

Teachers who left us over the summer:

Mr Bang – ICT
Ms Boyland – Science
Mr Casalis de Pury – Science
Ms Gibb – Modern Foreign Languages
Ms Gladstone – Head of Year 7
Ms Harries – Geography
Mr Robinson – Head of Year 9

Teachers who joined us this year are:

Mr Brown – Computing
Mr Colver – Media and Sociology
Mr Jecty – Modern Foreign Languages
Mr Diaz-Poblete – Science
Mr Marcousé – Economics
Mr Ridpath – Business
Ms Sinclair – Science
Ms Smith – Geography
Ms Young - Science