

HOMEWORK POLICY

Regular homework is a valuable aspect of the learning process and contributes to the development of sound study skills. It consolidates and supplements the work done in class and promotes independent learning and creativity.

- Homework refers to any work or activity which students are asked to do outside of class time.
- Homework involves parents / guardians in their daughter's learning and keeps them informed about the work being done at school.
- Homework, regularly and properly done, is essential for the student's success in the State Examinations (i.e. Junior Cert, Leaving Cert.).

There are many and varied activities which may be set for homework. They are all equally valuable and important:

- Writing
- Planning
- Reading
- Researching
- Recording to a CD or cassette
- Learning facts, poetry etc.
- Learning spellings / definitions.
- Evaluating work done previously.
- Preparing for a talk or presentation.
- Practical work / drawing / designing.
- Doing a physical exercise routine.
- Trying a new sport.
- Watching a certain T.V. Programme.
- Reading a newspaper article.

- Listening to a radio broadcast.
- Redrafting at home.
- Discussing at home.
- Interviewing a relative / friend / neighbour.
- Conducting an investigation.
- Making.
- Collecting.
- Practising.
- Using the computer / internet.
- Composing.
- Creative thinking.
- Reading through and reorganizing lesson notes.
- Completing coursework.
- Catching up on missed work.
- Preparing for tests and examinations.
- Revision.

Time required for homework

While extra revision study is normally required in preparation for tests and exams, the minimum recommended period of time for homework is as follows:

1st Year students - 1 hour 30 mins. per day.

2nd Year students - 2 hours per day.

3rd Year students - 2 hours 30 mins. per day.

T.Y. students - as required.

5th Year students - 3 hours per day.

6th Year students - 3 hours 30 mins. per day.

▪Transition Year students – due to the heavy commitment of co-curricular activities such as music, drama, Young Social innovations (Y.S.I.), field trips, sport, etc, the demands of homework will vary immensely from day to day.

▪In view of the time commitments required for homework, it is strongly recommended that students do not hold part-time jobs during term time.

▪The Student Journal must be used at all times to record details of the work set.

Homework and Study support facilities

▪Good study skills help students to participate more fully in classes while also improving productivity and efficiency.

▪A suitable study environment is essential.

▪Find a quiet place to study and do homework. Do not listen to the radio or television while studying, as they are a distraction.

▪Always study in the same place, preferably in a well-lit area. Sit in a straight backed chair near natural light if possible.

▪Organise the equipment you require for study. These may include text books, copies, notebooks, a dictionary calculator, ruler pens, pencils, erasers, paper clips, note cards, highlighters etc.

▪Keep your study area clean, tidy and well organized.

▪Supervised study is available in school for students from Second Year to Leaving Cert. Monday – Thursday: 4.00 – 6.00 p.m. Friday: 3.40 – 5.40 p.m.

▪All students are issued with a school planner and diary in which they are required to record their homework. Comprehensive guidelines on study skills as well as information and guidance on time management, goal setting and exam preparation are also to be found in the Student Journal.

▪The Career Guidance teacher meets with First and Second Year class groups and gives the students an introduction to study techniques and the SQ3R method i.e.

Survey

Question

Read

Recite

Recall

Basic skills like planning and organisation are also emphasised.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The role of students

- Record all assigned homework in their journal.
- Present the homework for correction on time.
- Make every effort to catch up on homework after an absence (i.e. matches, other school activities, illness etc.)
- Hand up written homework neatly and in clearly labelled copies / folders.
- Organise and have the necessary equipment for schoolwork and homework (copies, textbooks, pen, pencil, ruler, eraser etc.)
- Remember that further study and revision are part of a good homework schedule.

The role of Parents /Guardians

- Support their daughters with their homework
- Support the school policy on homework.
- Provide the necessary equipment for schoolwork and homework (textbooks, copies, pen, pencil, calculator etc.)
- Ensure that their daughter has a suitable quiet area in which to work.
- Check occasionally in the Student Journal that homework is being recorded and also check that the set work has been completed.
- Support teachers' recommendations / sanctions for homework not completed.

- Inform the school, through the notes in the Student Journal, of any genuine reason why homework has not been completed.

- Ensure that any part time jobs held by students do not interfere with the full and proper completion of Homework and Revision.