

Homework Policy

Homework is seen by the school as a key way of reinforcing the learning in the classroom. The school use it as a very important process to check that students show they know what they have learnt and to spot gaps in their understanding. We expect every student to make a real attempt at their work and we in turn will try to be flexible in the way we treat each student who has difficulties completing homework. Homework can be issued daily and over the weekend.

Why: we give homework for the following reasons:

- It develops good independent learning habits,
- It reinforces learning,
- It highlights challenges,
- It reassures parents' that their children are progressing,
- It invites parental involvement in learning
- It aids in preparation for exams,
- For assessment of learning

Types:

- study,
- research,
- written,
- active reading,
- oral,
- independent learning,
- practice class work
- projects

Homework Practice: homework must be

- entered in the journal,
- a note sent from parents if it is incomplete or not done,
- it is monitored by class teacher,
- a reasonable amount overall

Time involved: recommended

- 1st years 1 hour minimum,
- 2nd 2 hours minimum,
- 3rd years 2.5 hours minimum increasing closer to state exams
- Senior cycle 3 hours minimum increasing closer to exams

Sanctions: may include

- Catching up on homework,
- extra work,
- note in journal signed, phone call or email
- referral to form tutor,
- internal suspension until work is done,
- parents are asked to ensure that work is completed at weekends,
- detention

Role of Student:

- record all work in journal,
- students are expected to make their best effort,
- complete all homework given,
- be neat and organised,
- when absent, catch up on work missed.

Role of Parent:

- work with the school,
- support and encourage,
- supervise,
- monitor and sign journal daily.

Role of Teacher: should

- give relevant meaningful homework with criteria for success,
- give appropriate amount on a regular basis,
- check the work is completed,
- give timing guidelines,
- provide feedback,
- record work completed and not completed,
- liaise with parents / form tutors,
- correct and comment on completed work.

Homework Club: only for those recommended by form tutors for 1st years only. It is offered to students who need assistance or a structured environment that may not always be available. It may take place once or twice a week.