



HOMEWORK POLICY



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Why of Homework?

Homework forms an essential part of effective pupil learning and, therefore, it should be given serious consideration by pupils, parents/guardians and teachers alike. Homework may take many forms of learning, studying/revision as well as written work and associated tasks.

Homework tasks which are appropriate for students are many and wide ranging. Here are some examples:

- Written assignments
- Practical assignments
- Essay writing
- Simple experiments
- Revision
- Preparing for class tests
- Worksheets
- Watching a television/online programme
- Preparation for oral assignments and presentations
- Learning assignments
- Online activities
- Reading
- Research
- Problem solving
- Drawing
- Learning words/terms/vocabulary
- Listening assignments
- Portfolio based
- Interview
- Report writing
- Preparing for debates
- Projects

Homework allows students to:

- Remember
- Understand
- Apply
- Analyse
- Evaluate
- Take responsibility for their learning
- Be creative
- Manage their own information and thinking
- Manage themselves
- Communicate in various ways and styles
- Work with others
- Stay well
- Be confident and positive about their learning
- Be literate
- Develop and understanding and enjoyment of words
- Be numerate
- Express ideas mathematically

Benefits of Homework:

- Homework enables teachers to evaluate students work and assess its standard.
- Learning is strongly reinforced and consolidated when students revise that which was learned during the day, that evening.
- Better examination results are achieved when homework is completed regularly.
- Homework is an integral part of the learning process and learning continues through the completion of homework. Homework plays an important role in helping students to develop to their full potential and should be a positive experience.
- It allows students develop the practice of independent learning without the constant presence of the teacher or other students. This way of working is vital to the later stages of secondary education and thereafter.
- It allows students to use materials and other sources of information that re not always available in the classroom.



- It involves parents/guardians and others in students' work for their mutual benefit.
- It gives students valuable experience of working to deadlines.
- It forms a link with the study techniques crucial to success at Leaving Certificate level, third level and beyond.

The Responsibilities of Students:

- Student should record all their homework, oral, written and revision, in their homework journal.
- If students miss a class for extra-curricular activities, it is their responsibility to get any assigned homework from another student in the relevant class and complete it by the deadline in that subject.
- Students should treat their homework as an important part of school life. It demands time and attention so therefore, students where possible should do their homework:
 - ✓ At a definite, fixed time each day
 - ✓ As soon as it is realistically possible after arriving home
 - ✓ In a suitable space with no distractions from electronic devices
- Students should plan ahead to ensure that all homework is submitted on time.
- All subjects require full attention – don't avoid subjects you don't like.
- Students should seek guidance from their subject teachers on best study practice and techniques in their subject area.

Time Recommended:

Research shows that students who fully complete homework perform better in exams. The following average time limits are guidelines for students and parents/guardians alike:

Year	Daily Hours
1 st	1-2
2 nd	2-2.5
3 rd	2.5-3
4 th	See below
5 th	3
6 th	3+
LCA	See below

If students are spending a lot more time than this, please contact their Year Head.

Teachers and departments should tailor tasks to factor in the AEN needs of individual students.

Due to the nature of TY and LCA, students will be guided by teachers in relation to homework.



The responsibilities of parents/guardians:

Parents/Guardians can support in the following ways:

- Check journals and sign weekly
- Ensure all homework is completed to the highest standard possible
- Provide a suitable space for the students to complete homework/study
- Provide support or help where needed
- Liaise with the College when difficulties arise

The Responsibilities of Subject Departments and Teachers:

Each subject department should document their homework policy at the start of each academic year in their relevant template. Subject departments should monitor the effectiveness of their homework policy at subject department meetings.

The key criterion will be the extent to which the policy is contributing to the progress students make at school and their attitude to teaching and learning.

It is the responsibility of teachers to:

- Assign relevant homework as per their department policy to reinforce classroom teaching and learning.
- Ensure that students record homework tasks in school journals.
- Vary the homework tasks given to reflect modes of assessment in State Examinations.
- Ensure the homework given is relevant, engaging and varied.
- Give feedback in a timely and meaningful way – grade, comment, discussion with the students for example.
- Keep a record of homework tasks set.
- Follow the Code of Positive Behaviour for failure to complete homework.



How does our Homework policy link in with our Code of Positive Behaviour?

Circular Referral to be added



APPENDIX:

Junior Cycle Classroom Based Assessments:

Classroom based assessments occur during class time when the teacher evaluates the students in the specific assessment(s) that are set out in the subject.

Students will complete one Classroom-Based assessment based on learning outcomes in more than one stand of the course. The Classroom-Based assessment will be designed in consultation with the students.

A particular purpose of the Classroom-Based assessment is to facilitate feedback to students during their engagement with learning and at the end of the process.

The Classroom-Based assessment can be produced by the student in written, digital, visual or audio formats and it may be supported in these formats through the use of an interview or presentation.

The NCCA has further information as follows:

<https://ncca.ie/en/junior-cycle/assessment-and-reporting/>

Leaving Certificate Project Work:

At Leaving Certificate there are several subjects that include a project component.

Projects are designed to assess a student's research, performance, critical thinking and presentation skills, and are worth a significant percentage of Leaving Certificate grades awarded*. Please see table below:

LC SUBJECT	FINAL SEC RESULT - % WORTH
LC Art	70%
LC Construction Studies	50%
LC DCG	40%
LC Geography	20%
LC History	20%
LC Home Economics	10-45%
LC LCPE	50%
LC Music (performance)	50%
LC Technology	50%

****Subject to change by SEC (State Examinations Commission)***