

# **Homework Policy. (adopted by B.O.M. November 2014).**

This policy applies to students, parents and teachers and is in keeping with the school's fundamental aim to encourage each student to take responsibility for their learning and their property, to develop their full potential and to acquire skills necessary for lifelong learning.

## **Rationale:**

Homework reinforces what has been learned in class. Homework fosters independence, self-reliance, self-esteem, co-operation, responsibility and lifelong learning. It is an essential part of education as it re-enforces what students learn in school. It provides a link between teacher and parent and encourages parental involvement in their child's education.

## **The purpose of homework is;**

- to consolidate, supplement, complete and reinforce work done in class
- to develop independent study skills
- to develop time management skills

The following are guidelines for time spent doing homework and may vary depending on level of ability, time of year and class work being covered at the time;

First Year 1- 1½ hours each day (approx 10 mins per subject)

Second Year 2 hours per day

Third Year 2 - 2 1/2 hours

Transition Year Varies depending on project work.

Fifth Year 2½ to 3 hours each day

Sixth Year 3 hours each day and extra time at weekends

All students are expected to do homework and revision at weekends.

Revision should be ongoing throughout the year and is especially important before exams at Christmas, Mock Exam time and Summer. Some teachers may give out revision timetables prior to exams. Extra weekend revision is essential at these times.

Homework is work assigned by a teacher to be completed by a student outside school hours. It can take many forms e.g. it may be written, aural, reading, research, project work, revision, drawing, watching a television programme, preparation for debate, using the computer and carrying out research on the Internet ....the list is neither prescriptive nor exhaustive. It is important to emphasise that non written homework is as important as written homework.

Expectations regarding homework

- Students are expected to have all books, copies and equipment necessary for each subject in class each day.
- Homework should be completed and presented on time and to the best of the student's ability in a neat and tidy manner.
- All homework should be attempted as effort is extremely important.
- All homework should be written into the student's journal.
- If a student misses class work for whatever reason it is their responsibility to find out what work has been set and to do her best to complete it on time.

There are occasions when a student will not have written homework but it is expected that the student will complete revision work instead.

Sanctions may be applied if homework is not attempted. Continuous non completion of homework will result in a note on the students record in accordance with our Discipline Code.

### **Role of Parents:**

Parents play an important supportive role in the area of homework.

It is recommended that parents

- Provide a suitable environment for study i.e. space, heat, light, quiet, free from T.V. and other distractions.
- Should curtail the use of media devices during study
- Supervise appropriate to the age and needs of the student
- Check and sign the student journal weekly, ensuring that homework is written in each day and ticked off when completed.

### **Student Journal**

Every student is expected to have a school journal to record the homework assigned in each class. There is space in the journal for parents and teachers to communicate. In the event of a student not doing homework without a credible excuse, the teacher may impose sanctions and/or communicate with parents through the journal. Parents are requested to monitor the journal weekly and sign it and should provide a note of explanation if the homework is not completed on time. If a student defaces or loses their journal they will be required to replace it at an increased cost.

### **The Role of the Teacher:**

1. To give clear instructions on homework assignments.

2. To ensure students have sufficient time to write their homework into their school journal.
3. To keep an account of the homework given to students
4. To check that the homework is completed by the given deadline
5. To correct homework during the lesson, if possible
6. To keep an account of the homework completed by students
7. To consider the varying abilities of students when setting homework, consideration will be given to Students with special needs
8. To give homework from examination papers, when suitable.
9. To correct, mark and return homework
10. To provide regular and effective feedback to students on their homework performance.
11. To report and record lack of lack of homework in the students journal.
12. To report record and reward students for good progress.
13. Be available to discuss with parents if concerns arise regarding a Students study and homework.
14. Provide end of term progress reports on Students educational progress

### **The Role of the Class Teacher:**

1. To explain the importance of study and homework to students
2. To check the student's diaries for the recording of homework.
3. To keep an account of students patterns of instances of no homework.