

Homework & Homework Journal Policy

Policy relates to:

Students, Principal, School Management, Board of Management, Teachers, Parents/Guardians and Support Staff.

Homework

Homework is classified as written, aural/oral and/or research work given by teachers to students to be carried out outside school time. Homework is a very important part of the educational development of each student.

Rationale

To ensure the optimum development of students by providing continuity and traceability in their work.

Aims

To ensure that students will:

- do revision and consolidation of the day's work
- do preparation work for the next day's lessons
- become experienced in answering exam-like questions
- access additional information and develop research skills
- inform students/parents of the standard of learning

Definition of Homework

- Homework entails the following
 - Revision of classwork
 - Learned work
 - Written work
 - Careful preparation for the next school day
 - **If the above are implemented correctly, the overall result should be that the student would have developed the skills for better learning and to ensure academic success**

- **Time Guideline for students and parents on duration of homework:**

The following timescales are given as a guide to students and parents/guardians towards the amount of time a student should spend studying at home during the week and at weekends.

Every evening

Bliain 1 – 1-2 Hours

Bliain 2 – 2.5 Hours

Bliain 3 – 3 Hours

Idirbhliain – 2 Hours *but flexible and varied homework applies here

Bliain 5 – 3.5 Hours

Bliain 6 – 4 Hours

Weekend Homework

4 Hours

5 Hours

8 Hours

2 Hours

8 Hours

8++ Hours

Absence from class

If a student is absent from class due to illness or extracurricular activities, it is the responsibility of the student to catch up on the work that has been missed. Extracurricular activities should not be used as an excuse to not produce work. If a pupil has a concern, then he/she should consult with the subject teacher. In the case of longer or unplanned absences, the pupil and/or parent should consult with the principal for advice.

Sanctions

Homework assignments and deadlines are set by subject teachers and must be adhered to. Lack of cooperation by students will be dealt with in a variety of ways, such as:

- Verbal reprimand
- Written reprimand
- Individual Teacher may detain the pupil during breaktime until the work is completed
- Sanctions set by the teacher
- Discussion with students
- Discussions with parents by phone/ by letter / by visit to school.
- In cases of persistent disregard of school rules in relation to homework and diaries, a letter will be sent home to parents reminding them of their responsibility to check their children's

Dialann Scoile and strategies regarding homework and future study plans will be discussed with them.

Responsibilities of the Board of Management

- To ensure that policy is drawn up and evaluated.
- To approve policy and support its implementation

Responsibilities of the Principal, Deputy Principal and School Management

- To support and monitor the implementation of policy
- To support the development of students' study skills
- To support teachers in their interaction with pupils in relation to non-compliance with homework.

Responsibilities of the Parents/ Guardians

- Parents have an important supervisory responsibility in ensuring that homework is carried out regularly, carefully and without distraction.
- Parents should provide necessary support to complete homework
- Check and sign Dialann Scoile weekly
- Provide a suitable study environment, free from technological devices for homework.
- See that adequate time is spent on homework and that homework is completed
- If for any valid reason, a student has been unable to do the homework, an explanatory note is required and appreciated.

Responsibilities of the Students

- Students must have their Dialann Scoile in class at all times.
- The Dialann scoile should be placed on the desk at the beginning of the class
- The dialann scoile is seen as a schoolbook.
- All homework assignments should be recorded at the end of the class and entered into the Dialann Scoile
- Responsibility lies with the students to do the homework, present their work properly and co-operate with their teacher.
- Students are required to complete their assignments carefully and on time
- Students are asked to do their best always.
- Students absent from school for whatever reason must catch up on any work for the day(s) they were absent

Responsibilities of the Teacher

Teachers see the importance in meaningful and appropriate homework. Student achievement rises significantly when teachers regularly give homework and students conscientiously complete their work.

- To develop and implement the policy
- Assign, provide feedback to student and record homework set.
- Set out expectations for their classes
- Make homework clear and write set homework on the whiteboard at the end of each class and allow students adequate time to record homework in their Dialann Scoile.
- Homework will be corrected regularly
- Encourage and teach good study habits
- provide constructive feedback
- give help as needed
- give praise and motivation
- communicate with parents through the use of the Dialann Scoile in instances where homework is not completed.

Homework Journal/School Diary

- Each student must have an official Homework Journal (School Diary) and all homework is to be written in daily
- Parents/Guardians should ensure that homework is completed each night, and the journal is to be signed for all students' weekly.
- Any student presenting without homework must produce a note, signed by a parent/guardian, in the homework journal on the appropriate day.

- Having forgotten copies/books, etc. will not be accepted as an excuse.
- If a student is participating in extra-curricular activities, it is his/her duty to obtain and complete homework.
- Any student without homework completed on a regular basis will be deprived of certain privileges, i.e. exclusion from extra-curricular activities, and/or permission refused to go to shop, etc.
- Comments may be written by Teachers, Class Tutors and Parents/Guardians on a weekly basis or as often as required.
- School policies are also in the Students' Diary. It is important that Parents/Guardians read the Code of Behaviour with their children both should then sign the School Diary at the beginning of the school year.
- If the Homework Journal gets lost throughout the school year, a replacement will cost €10.

Supervised Study after School

A Supervised Study Period will be provided four evenings each week (Monday - Thursday) from 4.00 to 6.00 p.m. if there is sufficient demand.

Implementation and evaluation

- ✓ Subject teachers on a daily basis as part of their teaching duties
- ✓ The standard of homework will be discussed at Parent/Teacher Meetings
- ✓ Teachers will record homework assessment
- ✓ Homework standard will be referred to in all school reports sent home

Review

This Homework and Homework Journal Policy will be reviewed every three years or sooner if necessary.

Signed.
 Pam Pasello, Chairperson.