

## Homework Guidelines

### Rationale

Regular homework is a valuable aspect of the learning process and contributes to the development of effective and independent learners. Homework provides a means of enabling students to engage, reinforce and extend the learning that occurs in the classroom.

### Guidelines

- Each student will be assigned homework on a regular basis. Homework will be set according to age and learning needs.
- Homework consists of a variety of activities including: preparation for practical lessons, assignments, review of class work, reading text and reference books, revision, memorising information, and tasks set by the teacher for the next lesson.
- Teachers will be responsible for reviewing the homework of each student.
- The successful application of the policy relies on the partnership of student, parents, and teacher.
- Learning and study strategies useful to work in a faculty will be taught in that faculty and used as homework activities.
- Students in the senior phase of learning will be expected to take ultimate responsibility for their own learning.
- Students who have part-time jobs must ensure that a balance is arrived at, where time is available not only for part-time work (if warranted) but study, sport, recreational and cultural pursuits, family and social activities.

### Procedures

- Each faculty will determine the general practice for homework in subjects associated with the faculty during planning meetings for the start of a year.
- In accordance with general practice in the faculty, each teacher will manage the manner, in which homework is reviewed, so as to be able to provide parents/guardians with feedback regarding their individual student.

### Approximate time for the average student

Junior Secondary students (Years 7, 8 and 9) should be doing homework for a minimum of 10–15 minutes per night for each subject, this equates to 60–90 minutes per subject per week. Junior Secondary learners could have up to 5 hours of homework per week.

Homework for senior secondary students will vary according to the career pathway chosen.

### Consequences

Student's failure to complete set homework tasks will be dealt with in accordance with the Responsible Behaviour Plan. As such, consequences may include lunchtime detention, after school detention, subject withdrawal and contact with parents/caregivers. However, students, teachers and parents are encouraged to take a proactive approach when dealing with incompleteness of homework. Such approaches may include student involvement in study skills courses and collaboration with parents/caregivers to devise individualised plans to resolve issues pertaining to the completion of homework.

### Parent/Caregiver Strategies

The best environment for encouraging student learning occurs when parents and teachers are able to work in partnership.

The following strategies can be employed to encourage your student(s):

- request that your student(s) show you what work has been done in class; what notes have been taken; what handouts have been given; what worksheets have been given; what chapter of the text is being studied; what exercises (problems) have been set;
- check where they write down their homework, assignment dates: all students are issued with a diary;
- assist in setting up a wall planner which takes into account all subjects, homework tasks including assignment due dates, other commitments and parent birthdays;
- have them read their textbooks and other books associated with what is being done in class; and
- have them prepare to complete assignments well in advance; all assignments/projects are given to students well in advance of their due dates.

Students have ultimate responsibility for their own learning. Teachers and parents have an important role in fostering the development of self-motivation and learning.