



Rosary College School Homework Policy

Rosary College aims to foster in students a spirit of responsibility, respect and care. The Homework Policy aims to foster a love of learning and provide students with the skills for life-long learning.

Why Do Homework

- Regular homework is a valuable aspect of education and contributes to the development of study skills. It supports work done in class and promotes learning.
- It allows students to recognise areas of difficulty prepare for exams and work towards independent learning.
- It provides teachers with feedback on students' progress and helps them to identify individual students' strengths and weakness in their particular subject.
- It promotes parental involvement in their child's learning and it gives parents/guardians an opportunity to see the work the students are doing.

Aims of Homework Policy

- To ensure consistent approaches to the setting and reviewing of homework in Rosary College.
- To promote the development by the student of good study habits and effective study skills.
- To help students to improve their own learning and to enable them to organise their own work.
- To assist teachers' ongoing assessment of pupils' work and to ensure fair distribution of homework for each subject.
- To encourage parents/guardians to take an interest in and to share responsibility for their children's work in progress.

Students are expected to:

- Record all homework in the school journal each day.
- Review material covered in class as part of homework.
- Complete all homework to the best of their ability and present work on time.
- Present a note from parent/guardian where there is a valid reason for not having completed homework.
- Get journal signed weekly by parent/guardian.

Parents/Guardians are expected:

- Provide, as far as possible, a suitable place for homework, free of distractions such as television, mobile phones etc.
- Monitor the school journal to ensure that the homework is being done.
- Sign the journal weekly.
- Provide a note in the journal to the teacher if there is any reason why homework is not completed.
- Inform the class teacher/year head if any difficulties arise in relation to homework. Parents/guardians can communicate with teachers through the class journal or by making an appointment by phone.

The Class Teacher is expected to:

- Assign appropriate regular homework, learning or written, to each class.
- Ensure that homework reflects the aims of the syllabus and the level at which the student is capable of performing.
- Clearly record written and/or learning homework on the whiteboard at the end of each class and ensure students record it in their journals.
- Keep records of homework given and received.
- Assess homework assignments regularly and provide feedback to students and when possible, to parents/guardians.
- Maintain records of attainment.
- Inform parents/guardians if students do not present homework.

Responsibilities of School Management

- Year Heads will monitor the progress of students and liaise with students, parents/guardians and teachers with regard to students' progress.
- Persistent failure to comply with the homework policy will be dealt with through the School's Code of Behaviour.
- The Principal and Deputy Principal will provide support and structure for the implementation and review of the Homework Policy and will facilitate the ongoing pursuit of best practice.

Homework and Study Guidelines for Students

Homework can take a variety of forms including:

- Written assignments
- Creative assignments
- Learning assignments
- Revision work
- Collecting information for projects
- Listening to language CDs
- Drawing diagrams or maps
- Watching education documentaries
- Practicing or completing Art Work or Tech Graphics
- Practising an instrument
- Reading for pleasure

Students absent from class due to extra-curricular activities must establish and complete homework assignments for the next day.

Students who have been out sick will agree with the class teacher a period of time to complete missed assignments.

Guidelines for Time Spent on Homework

Students vary in ability levels and in speed of completion of work, so below is a general guideline for what might be an appropriate time spent on homework on a daily basis:

- 1st Year: 1 to 1.5 hours per day homework and revision**
- 2nd Year: 1.5 to 2 hours per day homework and revision**
- 3rd Year: 2 to 3 hours per day homework and revision**
- 5th Year: 2 to 2.5 hours per day homework and revision**
- 6th Year: 3+ hours per day homework and revision (weekend study is essential)**

Study Skills

As part of their Transfer Programme, all incoming First Years will be instructed in the use of the journal, how to organise homework tasks, how to differentiate between study and written homework requirements and how to record homework in the school journal.

A module on Study Skills will be delivered to 1st, 2nd and 3rd year students as part of their S.P.H.E. programme.

Evaluation of the Policy:

The Policy will be subject to review during 2019/2020 by the Policy Working group and the School Management based on the following criteria:

- Feedback from teachers, students and parents/guardians regarding the effectiveness of the Policy in achieving the stated aims.
- Improved recording and monitoring of homework as evidenced in the student journals.
- Increased student responsibility for homework completion.
- Increased involvement of parents/guardians with regard to homework.

Signed: _____
(for and on behalf of the Board of Management)

Date: _____