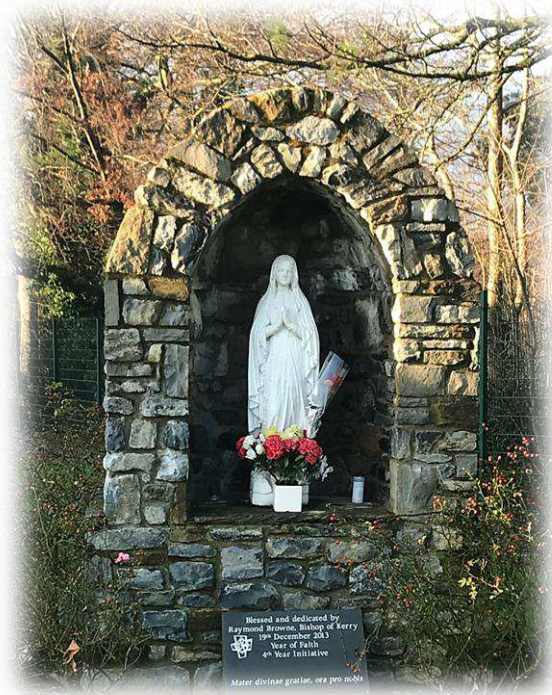




**PRESENTATION**  
SECONDARY SCHOOL TRALEE

COURTESY FRIENDLINESS CO-OPERATION

# Homework Policy



Reviewed	Ratified by the Board of Management	Review date
	24 <sup>th</sup> October 2019	October 2021

## Rationale

Regular homework is a valuable aspect of the learning process and contributes to the development of sound study skills. It consolidates and supplements the work done in class and promotes independent learning and creativity.

## Policy Objectives

This policy seeks:

- To ensure consistent approaches to the setting and reviewing of homework across the school.
- To provide a consistent Whole-School structure in relation to homework.
- To emphasise the importance of homework in the overall learning process.
- To encourage parents/guardians to take an interest in and to share responsibilities for their children's homework.
- To enable student to develop a capacity to organise their own work.

## Homework Guidelines

Homework should be given when:

- It is meaningful, relevant and focused.
- It reinforces and extends class work and consolidates basic skills and knowledge.
- It is challenging and purposeful but is not so demanding that it has adverse effects on the students' motivation.
- Students take responsibility for their homework, supported by their parents/guardians.
- Teacher expectations are well communicated.
- It is set on a regular basis and establishes a routine of home study.
- Teachers set suitable amounts of homework which are varied and at an appropriate level considering the year group and capabilities of the student.
- Feedback and follow-up are provided regularly to students.
- It develops and extends the core learning skills of inquiry and independent study.

No student should be overburdened with homework, to this end we set the following guidelines for time to be spent doing homework.

Year	Average time to be spent doing homework during the week	Average time to be spent doing homework during the weekend
1 <sup>st</sup>	1.5 hours per night (10 mins/subject)	2 – 2.5 hours
2 <sup>nd</sup>	2 hours per night (15 mins/subject)	2 – 3 hours

3 <sup>rd</sup>	2.5 hours per night (20 mins/subject)	4 hours
Transition year	2-3 hours per week	
5 <sup>th</sup>	3 hours per night (25 mins/subject)	4 – 5 hours
6 <sup>th</sup>	3 hours per night (30 mins/subject)	6 – 8 hours

Homework is not exclusively written work and all departments are requested to vary the type of homework given.

Homework may include:

- Extension assignments – encouraging students to pursue knowledge individually and imaginatively, including:
  - Written work e.g. a book review, problem solving etc.
  - Making or designing something e.g. in art or science or home economics etc.
  - Investigation e.g. science, home economics, geography, maths problems etc.
  - Research e.g. history, local news
  - Information and retrieval skills e.g. using a home computer to find material on the Internet
  - Monitoring e.g. advertising in a particular newspaper
  - Learning e.g. of terminology, definitions etc

Wherever possible homework should recognise the place of technology in today's world and the benefits of using technology such as; home computers, e-mail and the internet for organising and accessing information. The school, however, has regard for equity issues when setting homework that relies upon the use of technology. Students who do not have access to such technology at home will not be disadvantaged and local arrangements can be made to address this issue.

### Roles and Responsibilities

#### Board of Management

- To ensure that the policy is developed and reviewed on a regular basis
- To approve the policy
- To consider reports from the Principal on the implementation of the policy

#### Principal and Deputy Principal

- To establish structures and procedures for the implementation of the policy
- To monitor the implementation of the policy
- To facilitate the review of the policy every 24 months

## Year Heads, Guidance Teacher & Special Educational Needs Department

- To monitor the effects of the policy and to support students experiencing difficulty
- To liaise with subject teachers especially in relation to consideration for students with special educational needs

## Subject teachers

- It is the responsibility of each teacher to implement the policy, review homework and provide feedback to students
- To keep records of homework set
- To instruct students in homework and study skills
- To write homework on the board for Junior students
- To give students a time guideline on how long they should spend on a specific task each night
- To monitor and record homework compliance on VShare
- Implement strategies (prior to Level 1 Referral)
- Parents/guardians may be contacted when difficulties arise in relation to homework

## Parents/Guardians

- Parents/Guardians are encouraged to support the school policy
- Parents/guardians are recommended to login to VShare to track their daughters progress
- To provide suitable conditions for homework
- To monitor the use of personal devices (e.g. mobile phone, tablet)
- To liaise with the school with regards homework or difficulties with homework
- To sign the school contact journal at the end of each week
- To support your daughter in catching up on notes and homework missed due to absenteeism

## Students

- To record all homework in their school contact journal
- To complete the homework set
- To present homework properly
- To get homework assigned by teacher if student is attending school activities
- To revisit material covered in class each night even if written work is not given
- To catch up on notes and homework missed due to absenteeism

### Review Procedure of Policy

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years. The review team will comprise of the Principal, Deputy, Behaviour Support Team, Student Support Team, Leading Learning & Teaching Team, Care Teams

- Views and experiences of teachers, students and parents/guardians will be obtained
- School records will be reviewed to examine the impact on students' academic progress
- The progress of students with special educational needs will be given consideration