

Coláiste Chiaráin, Leixlip Community School Homework Policy

Relationship to Mission Statement

Our mission statement declares that 'Colaiste Chiarain aims to foster an appreciation of learning among students'. This policy is consistent with the mission and aims of the school by providing for the academic development of pupils and this in a context of 'educating the whole person'.

Rationale

In Coláiste Chiaráin, homework is seen as an essential part of the teaching, learning and assessment process. This policy is based on evidence garnered through a consultative process with students, parents and staff. Pupils' academic development is enhanced through the regular setting and regular assessment of homework. Thus the subject teachers in this school, plan, design and set work in consultation with students thereby acknowledging the importance of student voice in the process.

We believe that homework should be designed so that each student can succeed in doing it with significant success, thus maximising the potential for attainment.

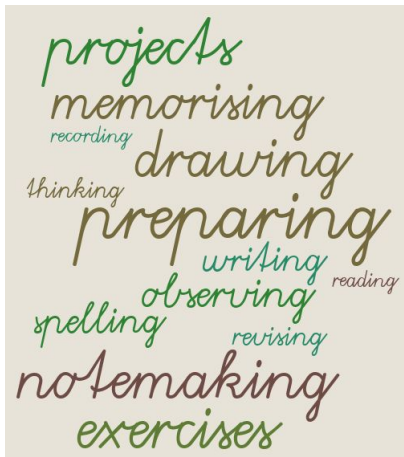
Scope

The Homework policy outlines the importance of homework and the key role students, parents, teaching staff and management play in implementing this policy.

Aim

This homework policy aims to provide a clear set of guidelines for all stakeholders

- in the assessing of pupil work in conjunction with our assessment policy
- identifying roles and responsibilities in relation to homework
- to outline rewards/sanctions in relation to student engagement with homework guidelines
- to promote a homework strategy

What is Homework?	The Purpose of Homework
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To revise what is taught that day in class • To carry out and complete assigned work • To reinforce the work learned last week/month • To encourage pupils to develop the skills, confidence and motivation needed to study effectively on their own • To provide parents and teachers with an insight into pupils abilities and skills • THERE IS ALWAYS HOMEWORK TO BE DONE

Roles and Responsibilities in Homework Policy Development and Implementation

The Board of Management will

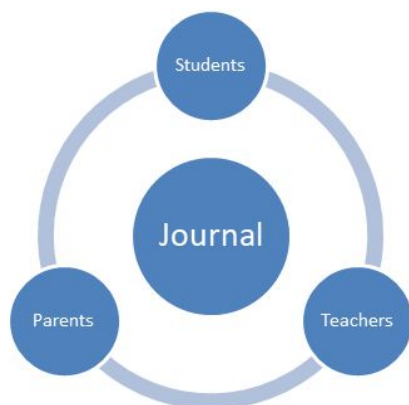
- Approve the policy
- Ensure the policy is regularly evaluated

The Principal and Deputy Principal will

- Monitor the implementation of the policy
- Review the policy implementation and report to the Board of Management

The Teaching Staff will

- assign appropriate regular homework
- keep records of homework and attainment
- assess homework and provide feedback (including positive comments) to students and parents.
- inform parents/guardians and Year Head when students do not present homework
- indicate the timing of assignments



Effective homework has:

- a clear purpose
- written instructions
- success criteria included
- a link to classwork
- to be doable
- constructive feedback
- been recorded
- an element of choice encouraging students to take ownership
- an emphasis on quality over quantity

Students will be encouraged to be self motivated and independent learners. Expectations will be appropriately high with enrichment activities to provide challenge and extension. If a student has particular difficulty with a piece of homework, a note should be supplied from home.

The Role of Parents/Guardians

- Monitor the student journal carefully and regularly
- Encourage students to complete all homework to the best of their abilities
- Discuss with the year head if access to appropriate technology is problematic
- Monitor the student's use of technology during homework. Some considerations:
 - ✓ timing of submissions, emails, etc. - within reasonable hours
 - ✓ homework should be a "No Phone Zone"
 - ✓ online assignments are best completed on a device other than a phone

Further tips can be found in The Homework Leaflet.

How to Study Effectively

- Prepare yourself: have a snack, meal or drink before you start

- Prepare materials: gather textbooks, copies, folders and equipment, etc.
- Prepare a place: choose a quiet and comfortable place to do homework or study
- Prioritise tasks based on study and assignment as recorded in the journal

Further tips can be found in The Homework Leaflet

Recommended Time for Homework and Study

Year	1st	2nd	3rd	5th	6th
Hours/Week	7-10	9-11	11-15	12-16	20+

Further Study Recommendations for Leaving Certificate Students

It is recommended that pupils dedicate at least 3 x 3 hour study sessions per weekend to suit personal schedule. Many students preparing for examinations attend after school supervised study. This is highly recommended

Pupils at Coláiste Chiaráin attend a Study Skills Workshop annually to enhance and support them in approaching study successfully. This in conjunction with the guidance and input from teachers should equip them with the ability to develop their individual strategies and plans to study and learn effectively.

Recording and Completion of Homework

- Recording **and** completing homework **well** supports research which recognises the significant positive relationship between time spent doing homework and achievement (Marzano and Pickering).
- In conjunction with our developing assessment policy, the completion of homework may be taken in to consideration in continuous assessment.
- In Coláiste Chiaráin, our **journal is the central tool** in the recording of homework, the tracking of progress and results and for affirming good effort. This involves all stakeholders (students, teachers and parents) **investing time and attention in the journal.**

Rewards

Rewarding good homework:

1. Adheres to current best practice which is organic and evolving. Current systems include the awarding of merits and tokens, group awards and class prizes.
2. May include written and verbal affirmation from class teachers, tutors and YH.
3. Recognises the very strong correlation between good homework habits and student performance and achievement

Sanctions

<p>In the first instance, non-completion of homework is dealt with by the class teacher.</p> <p>In cases of sustained non-completion of homework will result in referral to the Year Head who will apply an appropriate sanction.</p>	<p>Suggested sanctions as mentioned in the Code of Behaviour are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbal correction/warning • Extra work relevant to subject • Clean-up duties • Communication with parents/ guardians • Detention
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What to Expect in Case of Absence

When a student is absent from class due to extra-curricular activities, it is expected that he/she will contact classmates to find out what classwork was missed and homework needs to be done.

Representing the school is a privilege and EXTRA to the curriculum. Only students who show an ability to work independently and can manage their activities and school work will be eligible for selection.

This policy was adopted by the Board of Management on 16th December 2019
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