

POLICY ON HOMEWORK

AIMS:

- To ensure consistent approaches to the setting and reviewing of homework.
- To empower and motivate students to become efficient and independent learners.
- To enhance the academic achievements of the student and provide a framework where progress can be evaluated.
- To encourage parents to take an interest in and to share responsibility for their child's progress.

FORMULATION:

The Principal and senior management in consultation with subject departments shall formulate the homework policy.

When assigning homework what should be the teachers aim?

- To identify the knowledge and skills the teacher wishes the student to learn.
- Give homework and assignments that are relevant to work covered in class.
- Ensure the student sees that there is a specific target to the homework given.
- Teach the necessary skills and approaches before assigning homework.
- To identify specific areas of difficulty (or strength) for a given student.
- Give clear instructions

What are the important issues for the student with regard to homework?

- Homework will be given in each subject area each day.
- The amount of written homework will not be excessive and will be detailed in the teachers subject/class plan which will be reviewed by the teacher/subject department on an on-going basis.
- The student will be told the criteria for evaluating homework.
- The student will have a portfolio of all homework given, completed and corrected.
- Homework will be corrected, signed and dated by the teacher each day.
- Marks or grades will not be given for homework but relevant comments outlining what the student has done right, what weaknesses there are and what steps are needed to improve will be given.

How is the student motivated to do homework?

- **Guidance Teachers will organise Study skills workshops for all year groups.**
- There will be a common approach to study/homework within each subject area.
- Homework will always be assessed and student given time to correct/redraft their answers.
- Progress will be tracked in the Student Journal. Regular class tests will be given.
- There will be collaboration between the different subject departments with respect to homework.
- Students will be praised and encouraged by teachers as stated in the subject plan.

- A reward system will be in place whereby students who are clearly making progress may for example receive a homework free night, etc.

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IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY

- A rough time guide for study will be suggested for each year group in relation to subject areas. This will be outlined in Student Journal.
- Each subject department will devise, implement and evaluate teaching and homework programs. This will be clearly outlined in the class/subject plans.
- Special considerations will be made for students with special educational needs. IEP's will be in place for these students.
- Teachers shall provide a framework for effective presentation of homework and give students helpful feedback about their work.
- Records of homework, will be kept by class teachers.
- Parents will be encouraged to play an active role ensuring their child does homework assigned and will be informed when students do not carry out work by means of the school journal.

MONITORING PROCEDURES:

- Subject Departments teachers will meet once or twice a term to monitor homework and its implementations.
- Principal, Deputy Principal's will reinforce homework policy at subject department meetings.
- Parents will be informed of child's progress and their performance in homework regularly in the student journal and at parent teacher meetings.

SUCCESS CRITERIA

- Aims and Goals are attained.
- Good quality homework is presented and significant progress is apparent.
- That each student is achieving their potential and is satisfied with the effectiveness and relevance of the work assigned and with the feedback from the subject teacher.

REVIEW PROCEDURES:

Policy is reviewed by staff every year.