

HOMWORK GUIDELINES FOR FAMILIES

Rationale

Homework provides students with a number of educational benefits, thus it is an integral part of the College's educational programme. Benefits of a managed homework programme include:

- Students can enhance knowledge and understanding gained during lessons
- Students can practise skills learnt during lessons
- Students' willingness to take personal responsibility for their learning is fostered and then embedded
- Students can develop their self-management skills (e.g. Self-discipline, Time-management, Organising)
- Parents have an opportunity to be actively involved with their child's learning
- Teachers can ensure that students will have the opportunity to complete their educational programmes

Homework Schedules

All students should expect to complete **five (5) homework sessions per week**. *Guidelines* for the amount and typical forms of homework assigned to students in each academic year are listed below.

Homework Activities

Assigned homework tasks must support the needs of the student's educational programme and reflect the students' maturity. As a general principle, homework tasks are expected to increase in volume, variety, difficulty and complexity in correlation with students' increasing maturity (age), ability, knowledge and skills.

Homework Load

While homework is an important part of the learning process, the homework load must not be so onerous as to affect opportunities for students to play and pursue their interests to broaden their life experiences and promote their personal growth. Accordingly, the amount of assigned homework must be monitored by teachers and parents to ensure students can maintain a happy, healthy and productive life balance.

In certain circumstances, especially for upper secondary students, homework (such as reading a novel) may be assigned for completion during a holiday period to prepare students for the work of the next term.

YEAR	TYPICAL FORMS OF HOMEWORK ACTIVITY	AVERAGE LOAD
1	Set tasks for practice of key literacy and numeracy skills.	15 minutes/session
2	Set tasks for practice of key literacy and numeracy skills.	20 minutes/session
3	Set tasks for practice of key literacy and numeracy skills. Complete unfinished work.	20 minutes/session
4	Set tasks for practice of key literacy and numeracy skills. Complete unfinished work.	30 minutes/session
5	Set tasks for practice of key literacy and numeracy skills. Complete unfinished work.	30 minutes/session
6	Set tasks (especially for practice of key skills). Complete unfinished work.	45 minutes/session
7	Set tasks. Preparation for assessments. Complete unfinished work.	50 minutes/session
8	Set tasks. Preparation for assessments. Complete unfinished work. Daily Review.	60 minutes/session
9	Set tasks. Preparation for assessments. Complete unfinished work. Daily Review.	75 minutes/session
10	Set tasks. Preparation for assessments. Complete unfinished work. Daily Review.	75 minutes/session

Homework Responsibilities

- **Teachers:**
 - Regularly set achievable homework tasks
 - Monitor student completion of homework
 - Impose consequences that are appropriate to both the purpose of the homework and the student's maturity when a student fails to complete homework, or submit completed homework when it is due
 - Notify parents when a student consistently fails to complete homework to an acceptable standard
- **Students:**
 - Prepare and use a weekly "homework schedule" for school work, *even if there is no "set" work*
 - Submit completed assigned homework tasks by the due date that will meet the College's Standards
- **Parents:**
 - Monitor the type and amount of assigned homework (e.g. by checking the Student's College Diary)
 - *Encourage and support (i.e. **Not do the homework for them**)* each student to complete homework:
 - to the best of the student's ability
 - in accordance with the college's Standards Policy
 - by the due date