



Notre Dame High School

Homework Policy

We believe that all pupils are unique and of equal value regardless of academic ability, class, creed, gender, race or wealth. We believe that education is a moral transaction from one generation to the next and takes place in the Home, the Parish, the School and the Community.

1. Introduction

The school firmly believes that homework should be an integral feature of the work of the students and is one of the mechanisms through which we can help all students to achieve their full potential. It is most important that parents and school work together if students are to benefit from the homework.

2. Purposes

- 2.1 To help students to become more responsible for their own learning by working purposefully outside the classroom situation.
- 2.2 To develop perseverance and self-discipline.
- 2.3 To enable classwork to concentrate on those activities requiring the teacher's presence.
- 2.4 To open up areas of study by recognising the home and community environment as a valuable source of additional ideas, information and stimuli to support and supplement classroom work.
- 2.5 To give parents the opportunity to become more involved in the school work of their children and strengthen the educational partnership between home and school.

3. Effectiveness of Homework

- 3.1 The work should be planned and carefully linked with classwork in a way that reinforces learning objectives.
- 3.2 Homework may be learning, written, revision or research and may take the form of flipped learning where students access instructional content at home before the lesson, while in-class time is devoted to exercises, projects or discussions.
- 3.3 Where an extended piece of work is set, good practice is to break it down into manageable weekly chunks to help students manage their time.
- 3.4 The school's policy on homework is flexible and makes allowances for widely differing circumstances, including age, ability, home conditions and other demands on students' time and should allow all students to realise their potential.
- 3.5 The quality of homework is as important as the quantity. It should generate a variety of worthwhile experiences additional to those provided in school which can be regarded by students as having purpose, interest and relevance.

4. Show My Homework (SMHW)

- 4.1 **All homework will be logged by staff on SMHW. It is expected that students log onto SMHW daily to check for work set as well as for reminders and announcements.** Students may also find it helpful to use their journal to record additional information.

- 4.2 If there is any difficulty in completing homework for good reasons, a note written in the journal or an email from parents/guardian will be acceptable.
- 4.3 All parents will be provided with their own SMHW logon details with which they can access a mirrored view of their child's accounts.
- 4.4 Students should email relevant teachers straight away if they are having any difficulties with SMHW or attend homework club in room 208 during lunchtime.
- 4.5 A SMHW app is available to download from both the App Store and Google Play.

5. Frequency

- 5.1 Every child should expect HWK each week from core subjects and other subjects will set HWK most weeks. The following time allocations are a guideline for the amount of homework which should be set each week, however this is flexible and precise allocation may vary week to week.

| Year | Teaching hours | | Homework per teaching hour | Total | |
|-----------|----------------|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 7, 8 | 25 | | 15 mins | Approx. 6 hours | |
| 9, 10, 11 | 25 | | 20mins | Approx. 8 hours | |
| 12, 13 | 3 sub. | 4 sub. | 30 mins | 3 sub. | 4 sub. |
| | 15* | 20* | | 7.5 hours* | 10 hours* |

**6th form homework allocation is in addition to work completely during study periods.*

Y9/10/11 - Students should be reading through their notes each day in addition to homework set, to ensure a full understating of work covered in lessons.

- 5.2 Students whose circumstances make it difficult for homework to be completed within the timescale may find it useful to use the study facilities in school during the lunch hour or before/after school.

6. Holiday Homework

In recognition of the importance of our students having an opportunity to enjoy a well-earned rest and of the importance of time spent as a family during holidays, the following guidelines are set in place in relation to the homework set. The guidelines are differentiated by year group to reflect the differences in students' ability to manage workload and the commitments relating to summative assessments.

| Y7/8 | Y9/10 | Y11/12/13 |
|--------------------|--|---|
| No Homework | *Short fat subject staff <i>may</i> wish to set homework. *For subjects which include coursework / controlled assessment, staff <i>may</i> wish to set homework. | *Staff <i>may</i> wish to set homework. |

****It is important that when setting homework for Y9 – Y13, staff consider whether the homework is of real benefit to the progression of students and be mindful of not over burdening students whilst they should be resting and enjoying a break.***

7. Sanctions

- 7.1 Students who do not complete homework will be given a negative entry, unless there is a note in their journal from a parent providing a reasonable excuse.
- 7.2 If homework is not deemed to have been completed to the expected standard, a teacher may log a negative entry.