

## **Homework Policy**

Homework, along with sports, enrichment programs, and other fun activities is an important component in our overall educational program. The purpose of homework is to reinforce skills introduced in the classroom, to prepare students for new learning, to check for understanding, provide opportunities for enrichment activities, and to help students reach higher learning goals with independent practice.

### **Purpose:**

Homework contributes toward building responsibility, self-discipline and lifelong learning habits. It is the intention of the teachers to assign relevant, challenging and meaningful homework assignments that reinforce classroom learning objectives. Homework should provide students with the opportunity to apply information they have learned, complete unfinished class assignments, plan for future learning, and develop independence.

### **Homework assignments include:**

- Year 11,12 & 13 exam/revision specific preparation and challenge.
- Years 7,8,9,& 10 a range of project exercises, preview assignments to prepare for subsequent lessons, extension assignments to transfer new skills or concepts to new situations and creative activities to integrate many skills toward the production of a response or product

### **The Policy:**

1. Homework is set on a weekly basis for year 11,12, & 13 in all subjects.
2. Homework is set for years 7,8,9 & 10 on a three week cyclical basis with two in each term
3. Homework is set according to a timetable that is issued at the start of the year.
4. A copy of the homework timetable will be stuck into pupils' planners.
5. Homework will only be set on the timetabled day, unless special circumstances apply.
6. Appropriate time should be set aside for the explanation of homework and should form part of teachers' lesson planning.
7. Reasonable deadlines will be set for the completion of homework and pupils must write the due date into their planners.

### **Time:**

Actual time required to complete assignments will vary with each student's study habits, academic skills, and selected course load. If your child is spending an inordinate amount of time doing homework, you should contact your child's teachers. Students are also encouraged to pursue non- assigned, independent, leisure reading.

### **Library**

The library is available before, during and after school to support with homework completion.

**School Website VLE** – Homework tasks will be published on the school website VLE platform called Firefly.

**Rewards and Sanctions.** – See Culture for Learning policy.

### **Monitoring of homework**

1. Form tutor monitor the accurate recording of homework in pupils' planners.
2. An exemplar page of a pupil's planner illustrating how homework should be recorded is available in the planner.
3. Curriculum leaders and the senior leadership team will conduct planner checks and may liaise with individual pupils and teachers.
4. The quality of homework is monitored through book reviews and learning walks.

### **Responsibilities of Staff:**

- Assign relevant, challenging and meaningful homework that reinforces classroom learning
- Give clear instructions and make sure students understand the purpose
- Give feedback and/or correct homework
- Involve parents and contact them if a pattern of late or incomplete homework develops

### **Responsibilities of Parents:**

- Set a regular, uninterrupted study time each day
- Establish a quiet, well-lit study area
- Monitor student's organisation and daily list of assignments in their agenda; these can be found in the student planner, and on-line using our VLE, Firefly
- Help student work to find the answer, not just get it done, striking a balance between encouraging the student to work independently, and not doing the learning for them
- Be supportive when the student gets frustrated with difficult tasks or assignments; encouraging the student to be feel confident and positive
- Contact teacher to stay well informed about the student's learning process

### **Responsibilities of Students:**

- Write down assignments in your student planner
- Be sure all assignments are clear; don't be afraid to ask questions if necessary
- Set aside a regular time for studying
- Find a quiet, well-lit study area
- Work on homework independently whenever possible, so that it reflects student ability.
- Produce quality work.
- Make sure homework is done according to the given instructions and completed on time.

## **10 Benefits of Homework – John Bishop**

1. Homework teaches students about time management.
2. Homework teaches students how to set priorities.
3. Homework helps teachers determine how well the lessons and material are being understood by their students.
4. Homework teaches students how to problem solve.
5. Homework gives students another opportunity to review the class material.
6. Homework gives parents a chance to see what their child is learning in school.
7. Homework teaches students that they have to do things, even when they don't want to.
8. Homework teaches students how to take responsibility for their part in the educational process.
9. Homework teaches students how to work independently.
10. Homework teaches students the importance of planning, staying organized and taking action.