



Coláiste Íosagáin, Portarlington, Co. Laois

Homework Policy

Roll Number/Charity Number	68068R/20148508
Trustees	CEIST
Approved by the Board of Management	24 th June 2026

(1) Introduction

We regard the setting and correction of homework as an important part of our overall aim to achieve the highest possible level of learning among our students. We believe it is important because it helps:

- Enhance academic achievement
- Consolidate work done in class
- Promote creativity
- Encourage self-directed study
- Assist in teachers' ongoing assessment of pupils' work
- Encourage practical work/project work
- Promote learning of concepts
- Help students to organise their own work
- Encourage parents to take an interest in and to share responsibility for their children's work and progress.

(2) Methodology

The following methods are encouraged in order to help our students learn how to do homework and study:

- Sample answers should be given occasionally in order to show students what standard of answer is expected in the state exams.
- Good homework completed by students should be celebrated and shown to the class as an example of how the work should be done. Teachers should enter a Good News chronicle entry on Compass for students that completed good homework once a month.
- Tasks set as homework may be assessed and the recorded grades used as part of their Christmas or summer exam results.
- Students should be given as much guidance as possible as to how to actually do their homework. Success Criteria should be discussed with students so they are aware the standard of work that is required.
- Teachers should differentiate carefully between students' ability to do homework and correct their work on an individual basis.
- Subject teachers should occasionally give students lessons in how to study in their particular subjects. Ideally this would happen early in each term and also near exam times.

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- Teachers should make it clear to students how much written work is expected in response to a particular question.
- Teachers are encouraged to identify the relative strengths of specific students and to tailor homework accordingly.
- In weak classes it is recommended that teachers do a large part of the homework in class. This is to help students who would not be able to do the homework without help or who may not have help at home. Once the teacher is satisfied that the students are capable of completing the work, they should be left to do the rest of it at home.
- Teachers if they wish may allow 1st Year classes to start their homework 5 to 10 minutes before the end of class.
- In the case of weak classes homework may be set less frequently but with more time given to feedback.
- Teachers should relate homework to student's exam results in order to help set work at an appropriate level.
- A rough guide to how long you should spend every day on homework and study is as follows:
 - 1st Year: 1½ hours a day
 - 2nd Year: 2 hours a day
 - 3rd Year: 2½ - 3 hours a day
 - 4th Year: 2 hours a day
 - 5th Year: 3-4 hours a day
 - 6th Year: 3 - 4 hours a day
- All students need to allocate extra time at weekends for study. Exam classes may need to allocate additional time to go over areas of difficulty.

Homework Time Guide

First Years	
Maths	15
English	15
Irish	15
Other Exam subjects	45
	1 hr 30 mins

Second Years	
Maths	20
English	20
Irish	20
Other Exam subjects	60
	2 hrs

Third Years	
Maths	25
English	25
Irish	25
Other Exam subjects	1 hr 45 mins
	3hrs

Fifth Years	
Maths	35
English	35
Irish	35
Other Exam subjects	1hr 45 mins

	3hrs 30 mins
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Sixth Years	
Maths	40
English	40
Irish	40
Other Exam subjects x 3 per night	2 hrs
	4 hrs

(3) Management of Homework

In order to manage the setting, correcting and recording of homework, the following procedures are recommended:

- Teachers should write the homework on the board and ensure the students record it in their journals before the end of each class.
- Teachers may also record homework given on the class Microsoft Teams account.
- Students should be given time during class to record their homework in their journals.
- The student should list the subjects they have each day in their Journal and enter after each subject what their assigned homework is.
- Teachers should carefully record homework set, returned and corrected in their teachers' diaries.
- Subject teachers should carefully record students who have not completed their homework. In the case of a student who fails to complete homework, the following procedure should be followed:

(4) Homework Procedure

In the case of students who are neglecting to do their homework, the following procedure, as outlined in the students' journal, will be implemented.

Homework Policy

The setting and correction of homework is an important part of our overall aim to achieve the highest possible level of learning among our students. **The student is responsible for noting homework in his/her journal and for having it completed by the set date.** Parents should check that students have noted their homework in their journals and completed it by the set date.

In order to ensure that all students are completing their homework to the best of their ability, the following procedure will be operated:

- If a student does not hand up homework which he/she has been given to do, the class teacher will apply an appropriate classroom sanction. The student must also ensure the homework is completed for the next class.
- The class teacher may also send a Parent Referral Form on Compass for that student.
- If a student consistently fails to do homework the teacher may refer the matter to the Year Head/Link Deputy Principal who in turn may arrange a meeting with the student and his/her parents.

(5) Roles

The following individuals are identified as having important roles in ensuring that homework is done on time and to an acceptable standard:

The **student** is responsible for noting homework written and non – written in his/her journal and for having it completed by the set date. On a daily basis students should fill out their journal showing the classes they have that day.

- If a student is absent from class due to extracurricular activities etc. they must contact a student in their class via Microsoft Teams to find out homework given or work to be completed.
- If a student is absent due to illness and if they wish they may message their teacher during school hours via Coláiste Íosagáin Microsoft Teams or e mail account to find out topic covered or work assigned in class.

Parents should check that students have noted their homework in their journals once a week and sign it.

Subject teachers are responsible for setting homework of a suitable level of difficulty on a regular basis, and for collecting it, correcting it and giving feedback on it. They should record work set and received, and grades and comments given. They should ensure that students have noted the homework in their journals. They are also responsible for noting failure to do homework in the students' journals and for applying sanctions where necessary.

Homework can take a variety of forms, both written and non-written. Due to the nature and diversity of subjects being studied, there are many non-written forms of "prep" that are more effective in assessing the student's progress and in reinforcing work learned in class. A wide variety of homework set by the teachers.

These include:

- Investigations
- Interviews
- Experiments
- Essay writing
- Learning work
- Report writing
- Vocabulary
- Spellings
- Designing
- Music practice
- Revision / Study
- Model making
- Drawing / Painting
- Projects
- Watching recommended TV programmes etc.

Listening to Cd's / recordings for languages and music practice and research using I.C.T.



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Year Heads should act upon reports from teachers relating to persistent lack of homework. This will be dealt with as a discipline matter and the relevant procedure, as outlined, will be implemented.

Learning support staff and language support staff should liaise with teachers of individual students to give advice as to how those students can best be accommodated in relation to homework.

Academic Monitor: To promote and update the school's Homework policy

- To actively promote and implement strategies to improve Homework
- To actively promote and implement a programme of Study Skills for the relevant Year Groups