



Assumption Secondary School

Homework Policy

Homework Policy



Our Mission Statement

We endeavour to educate young women in an inclusive, caring, Christian atmosphere of respect for self, others and the environment.

We value freedom, equality and security and strive to promote the growth of positive thinking, self-worth and justice.

To achieve our Mission Statement a homework ethic is essential to enable staff to assist students to reach their full academic and personal potential and strive for excellence in all areas of life and work. Student confidence, independence and self esteem are fostered and enhanced. The competencies and skills learned through completing homework are integral part of the above. Our homework policy fosters positive values such as self discipline, responsibility, and an interest in learning, which will benefit our students throughout their lives.

Rationale

Homework is an essential part of the learning process and contributes to the development of sound study skills.

- It enables students to develop independent thinking, retention and life-long learning skills.
- It consolidates and supplements work done in class.
- It helps determine the student's grasp of material and work covered in class.
- It prepares the way for work to be done in the future.
- It extends and challenges students' capabilities.
- It lays the foundations for successful examination work.

This policy encourages a sense of responsibility for homework amongst all the school partners of Assumption Secondary School. The final responsibility for satisfactory completion of homework rests with the learner.

Objectives

- To encourage consistent approaches to the setting and reviewing of homework.
- To foster a consistent approach to the completion of homework and encourage students to take responsibility for homework.
- To encourage parents/guardians to take an interest in and monitor their daughter's work and progress.

Content

Homework is any work given to a student by a teacher to do at home. It will involve learning and/or writing. Homework is not optional. A wide variety of homework assignments are set by Teachers. Homework may consist of

- Written
- Learning
- Aural Work
- Research for projects and writing up of project briefs
- Preparation of material necessary for practical work in School.
- Watching recommended TV programmes
- Listening to Radio programmes
- Internet research
- Studying / Revision work.
- Drawing
- Reading

How long should students spend on Homework (to include revision)?

It is our experience that students who pay full attention to homework do better in exams than those who don't. As part of the students' daily routine, we suggest that the following average time limits are guidelines for students and parents alike:

1st Year	1.5 hours
2nd Year	2 - 2.5 hours
3rd Year	2.5 - 3. hours
Transition Year	1.5 hours (See note 1)
5th Year	3 - 4 hours
6th Year	3 - 4 hours
All year groups	Study/homework time must also set aside at weekends.

Note 1: Homework and assessment is a very important part of Transition Year. Assessment methods may be different from the traditional familiar forms used in other years. In addition to traditional styles of homework, T.Y. students are also asked to undertake projects, assignments, interviews, research and other demanding tasks. Time spent on homework tasks and projects will vary during the year.

Roles and Responsibilities

Board of Management

- To ensure that the policy is developed and evaluated from time to time.
- To approve policy.
- To consider reports from the Principal on the implementation of the policy.

Teachers

- Ensure that students have their homework journal available in class.
- Give homework in every class.
- Instruct students to record subject/homework/completion date in journal.
- Write homework on the board for students to note it.
- Give the last two minutes of class to ensure homework is recorded.
- Note homework on Google Classroom.
- Set achievable standards of homework.
- Ensure that homework is monitored and corrected, assessed and acknowledged. Feedback is given and recorded in accordance with the professional judgement of the teacher, dependent on the homework set. This feedback should be regular and relevant to students and should identify areas of strength and potential areas for improvement.
- Positive reinforcement is encouraged.
- Keep parents informed of any difficulties in relation to homework through the journal.
- Implement the policy, review homework assignments and provide feedback to students.
- Keep records of homework set.
- Instruct students in homework/study skills.
- Be consistent in the amount of homework given.
- Be aware homework should be differentiated.

Parents/Guardians

- Encourage students to achieve their full potential by supporting school policy.
- Ensure where possible that a quiet room where homework can be completed away from distractions of television, radio, mobile phones and other people is provided.
- Encourage students to spend time in line with the time limits provided above at homework and revision each night.
- Check and sign journals on a weekly basis and familiarise themselves with the Teachers comments and homework given.
- Encourage students to attend after school study if provided.
- Attend Parent-Teacher Meetings to help support your daughter.
- Fully support the school in any sanctions employed to deal with homework not completed.
- Provide teachers with valid letters of explanation in the event of homework not being submitted.
- The school discourages part-time jobs held by students during term time as they interfere with the full and proper completion of homework and revision.

Students

- It is the student's responsibility to seek clarification on given homework before end of class.
- To record all assigned homework in assigned Homework Journal. Each day students should have listed the classes they have for the day on the left-hand column and homework, whether written or oral in the right-hand column.
- To treat homework as an important part of school life that demands time and attention each day.
- Students who are sitting for State Examinations/House Exams will require more time as exam time approaches.
- Be fully prepared for their classes. This will require careful study at home to ensure that homework set in class, both oral/learning and written/practical is completed thoroughly to the best of their ability.
- Present written homework properly.
- Include time for study and review of what has been covered and preparation for the following day.
- Use weekends/mid-terms breaks for additional study and revision.

- To ensure that Homework Journal is signed by parents/guardians each week and handed up to the Year Head for checking on appointed day.
- Have the necessary equipment, books, copies etc. to complete homework properly.
- Homework should be presented to a high standard in terms of presentation and content.
- Take note of and learn from teacher comments.

Students who are absent from class should obtain work missed and homework from classmates and / or Google Classroom.

Non-Completion of Homework

- Failure to complete homework will be recorded by the teacher in the comments book in line with the agreed sanctions as detailed in the Code of Behaviour.
- Records will be kept for future parent interviews and Parent-Teacher meetings.
- Teachers will contact parents when a student regularly fails to present appropriate homework.

This Policy was ratified by the Board of Management on the 9th November 2022