

Holy Trinity Catholic School

Homework policy (April 2021)

Homework should make a valuable contribution to the education and development of children. The purpose of homework at Holy Trinity is to ultimately, raise the standard of achievement. It will provide opportunities for students to work independently and to take responsibility for organising their work, building on the school wide progress made in using Microsoft Teams (and other online platforms) during the Covid 19 pandemic. It will help students recognise the link between good study habits and higher standards of achievement with the aim of developing good study habits for future destinations.

Homework can be used to ensure that students have understood class work; consolidating or extending work covered in school. In some cases it may be used to prepare for future lessons.

It will also allow more extensive coverage of the curriculum, through integrated planning of class work and homework while also helping parents understand what their children are learning in school and to encourage them to participate in that learning.

Each faculty is responsible for adhering to the whole school Homework Policy and practice. Teachers should:

- In subjects with 3+ hours per week, set one piece of homework weekly. In lessons taught less frequently, either every two or three weeks at the discretion of the Head of Faculty
- Plan homework as an integral part of the curriculum. Homework should be referred to and relevant within the lesson it is due for completion.
- Set homework online via Microsoft Teams (or other online platforms such as Mathswatch)
- Set tasks that can be completed within the allocated time and that are as far as possible matched to the abilities of students in the group. Learning tasks that then feed into low stakes testing in class are also recommended as effective homework.
- Position the setting of homework so that it is set within the context of the topic being studied or as a review of previous topics covered.
- Ensure that homework is monitored.
- Make sure that students understand what the homework is and that they record it correctly in their diaries, at the end of the lesson.
- Give a reasonable time for its completion (normally 3-5 days).

Lack of homework or late homework should be sanctioned in line with the school behaviour policy. This follows a flow chart of actions culminating in parental meetings for persistent offenders. Homework should be discussed with parents at parents' evenings and also forms part of the organisations strand in data captures. All students will have a homework diary, which will be monitored weekly by both Form Tutors and Parents. This will be monitored by Heads of Year. Heads of Departments will monitor homework and there will be discussions of work set at Departmental Meetings.

Homework sanctions should be logged as follows in Bromcom;

H0 Missed one piece of homework

H1 Missed second piece of homework (loss of a BfL point)

H2 Missed third piece of homework (loss of 2 BfL points). Class teachers may choose to contact home at this point.

After H2, the severity of the sanctions escalates.

HOF will then get involved and decide on the next step. This may be a phone call home by the HOF, it may be a formal conversation between the child, class teacher and HOF detailing the next steps or it may be a detention with the HOF.

H3 Missed fourth piece of homework (loss of 3 BfL points and lunchtime detention with HOY- details to be confirmed)

At this point, we may choose to wipe the slate clean and begin the process again.

However, if homework continues to be missed, the issue would escalate further. A formal letter would be sent home and long term, we would look to bring parents into school at this point for a meeting with the HOY/HOF.