

St Richard's Catholic College

Homework Policy



The Policy was approved by the Governing Body: September 2018

Chair of Governors: _____

The Governing Body will review the policy in September 2019

HOMWORK POLICY

Homework is essential:

- To encourage pupils to develop the practice of personalised learning and independent study.
- To develop perseverance and self-discipline.
- To allow practice, where it is needed, of skills learned in the classroom.
- To permit more ground to be covered and more rapid progress to be made.
- To enable classwork to concentrate on those activities requiring the teacher's presence.
- To open up areas of study and to make possible the use of materials and sources of information that are not accessible in the classroom.
- To involve parents (and other adults) in pupils' work.

Departmental schemes of work should reflect the link between classwork and homework so that a "total" picture of connected learning is produced.

Types of Homework

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Complete or consolidate work done in class, pupils can suggest their own homework.2. Pursue further lines of inquiry.3. Review and add to work using the purple pen.4. Prepare work for a following lesson.5. Factual or imaginative writing.6. Reading.7. Learning or revising.8. Fact finding/observation.9. Illustration or map work.10. Flipped learning in order to introduce pupils to the learning materials before class11. Use of media and output12. Longer term projects.13. Answering past examination papers.14. Developing mind maps.15. Create revision resources.16. Creating questions for peer group work.17. Creating their own exam/assessment questions.	<p style="text-align: center;">Structured Research Investigative Problem Solving Preparing oral, visual Team presentation</p>
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

It is expected that homework tasks will be Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, Time Specific. ICT can be used to support homework activities and tasks. The virtual learning environment is designed to help pupils link work in school to work at home. This list is by no means exhaustive, but remember pupils enjoy variety and elements of choice. They appreciate and enjoy opportunities to be independent and creative. ICT for homework is available via the Prep Clubs and the library.

Setting of Homework

All homework is set on 'EduLink One', an online homework calendar that helps pupils and parents track their homework. Each pupil has a unique log on which enables them to see all of the details of the homework that they have been set.

Parents also have access to their own 'EduLink One' account in which they will be able to see the homework that their child(s) has received including submission dates and other information. As well as giving parents a deeper insight into the homework their child receives, it will also help them support their child's organisation, time-management, and help them to keep on top of their workload.

Roles of Departments

For homework to be effective each department needs to adhere to the schedule of homework that is set and to ensure that homework is properly completed, collected in, assessed, marks recorded and written feedback given to the pupil by teacher or peers. An understanding of the relevance, length and variety of homework should be built into the departmental schemes of work. Departmental meetings should enable members to share ideas on types of homework. Each member of a department should be aware of:

- The homework timetable and keep to it. This is shared with all pupils and parents at the start of the academic year.
- How much homework is set per week for the different ages and abilities.
- The variety of tasks available in setting homework.
- How homework is assessed in the light of the department marking policy.
- When homework is collected in and the time given for the completion of a homework.
- Pupils spending too little/too much time on homework
- The need for differentiated homework where required
- The need to increase the time and intensity of homework as pupils progress along the Key Stages
- The time needed for pupils to record homework and to have it explained
- The sanctions adopted by the department for poor standard or non-completion of homework and the communication with parents/carers in this matter
- The need to inform parents/carers of projects and controlled assessment involvement and that homework may be continuous over a period of time
- Awareness of ICT facilities in a home.

The Role of Teachers

To set and feedback on, mark and grade homework activities in line with department guidelines and college policy. To set all homework on the on-line homework platform, which is through EduLink One (on-line journal shared with pupils, staff and parents) and explain before the end of the lesson. To be mindful of the need to set homework according to the published homework timetable and for flexibility at certain points in the year.

Role of Pupils

Pupils have an obligation to complete homework on time and to make it available for checking and marking. They need to take responsibility for their learning at home by proactively accessing relevant resources. It is important for pupils to establish a regular homework routine.

Role of Parents/Carers (cfr Home/School Agreement)

Parents/carers enter into an undertaking to support the aims and objectives of the college and the education of their child. They should be encouraged to monitor their child's homework through their parental 'EduLink One' account. Parents should also monitor completed homework and provide the best working environment where pupils can do their homework. Where a difficulty arises they can communicate it by letter, phone call or email. Parents/carers may want to assist their child/children completing their homework but should ensure the work is completed by the child/children, so that they obtain the educational benefit of doing so.

Pointers to Ensure Successful Homework Outcomes

- Staff should check the homework timetable to see the other subjects that are set on the same night as theirs. They can take that into account when setting a hand in date.
- Set all homework on 'EduLink One'
- Develop learning skills through PSHEe.
- Rather than not set homework, look at the range of alternatives to develop study skills at home.
- Regular checking of 'EduLink One': by Form Tutors, Pastoral Leader, Parents/Carers and by individual staff is the key to monitoring homework, both in terms of setting and recording.

- Project/long-term assignments need to be broken down into bite-sized components and to be monitored regularly. It may be unfair to set such work over holiday periods - some families go away.
- A homework club is available through Learning Support for those with learning difficulties. Prep Club Plus runs from 3:15pm to 4:30pm, Monday-Thursday to support SEN pupils with their homework. It is supervised by a member of the SEN Department.
- Prep Club (3.15pm – 5.00pm) is run Monday – Thursday in C Block ICT suite. It is supervised by a member of staff and is open to all year groups.

The best practice arises from good planning and departmental schemes which should reflect a variety of interesting and stimulating homework that can be a spur for the lessons that follow.

Appendix 7 – Homework Timetable 2018-2019

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7 FLOU	Art	Science	PD	Science	Maths
	RE	Art	Maths	History/ Geography	English
		Computing	English	MFL	
7 RISH	Art	Science	Art	Science	Computing
	RE	PD	Maths	Computing	Maths
		English	History/ Geography	MFL	English
8 FLOU	Computing	Science	RE	Computing	History/ Geography
	English	MFL	MFL	PD	Science
	Art	Maths	Art	Maths	English
				Art	
8 RISH	Computing	Science	Computing	Maths	RE
	PD	MFL	MFL	English	History/ Geography
	English	Maths	Art	Art	Science
	Art				
9 FLOU	MFL	Ex Arts PD	Science	Ex Arts PD	Ex Arts PD
	Computing	Science	English	Maths	English
	English	Computing	Computing	MFL	Geography/ History
		Maths	RE		
9 RISH	MFL	Ex Arts PD	Science	Ex Arts PD	Ex Arts PD
	English	Science	Computing	Maths	English
	Computing	Computing	English		RE
	History/ Geography	Maths	MFL		
10	Science	MFL P2	RE	English	Option P1
	English	History/ Geography	Maths	Science	Maths
					MFL P2
11	Maths	History/ Geography	Option P1	Science	English
	Science	English	MFL P2	Maths	MFL P2
				RE	