

St Richard's Catholic College

Homework Policy



The Policy was approved by the Governing Body: September 2023

Chair of Governors:

The Governing Body will review the policy in September 2024

Aim

To ensure that homework set and completed by pupils across the school contributes to a high level of learning; contributes to pupils developing strong study habits, and supports pupils in making progress across the curriculum.

The evidence shows that the impact of homework, on average, is five months' additional progress... There is some evidence that homework is most effective when used as a short and focused intervention.... Benefits are likely to be more modest, up to two or three months' progress on average, if homework is more routinely set (e.g. learning vocabulary or completing practice tasks in mathematics every day).

Education Endowment Foundation September 2018

Rationale for homework

- To help pupils to make more progress in their learning
- Consolidate and extend work completed in class
- To develop skills of learning independently including perseverance, self-discipline, managing time and working to deadlines
- To provide the opportunities to extend learning through long term projects using resources which may not be available in the classroom
- To involve parents and others in the pupils' learning

Types of Homework may include:

- Consolidation and extending work completed in class
- Extended reading
- Preparation of a presentation
- Developing research skills
- Developing revision strategies from year 7
- Work on interleaved tasks to develop and strengthen knowledge and skills
- Use of online homework including Mathswatch, Sparx maths, Memrise and Bedrock Vocabulary Programme
- Extra-curricular activities
- Flipped learning (Pupils prepare and reflect on materials before class and then use class time to deepen understanding through discussion with peers and problem solving activities.)

Expectations

Departments are expected to:

- be mindful of pupil wellbeing and set homework according to the published homework timetable.
- use departmental schemes to reflect a variety of subject appropriate, interesting and stimulating homeworks
- ensure homework is accessible and relevant for all

Teachers are expected to:

- Develop 'learn to learn' skills at the start of Year 7

- Develop strategies on how to revise across all Year groups
- Ensure that homework is both purposeful and impactful
- Set homework on the on-line homework platform EduLink One by 3.15pm on the scheduled day
- Set appropriately challenging work
- Scaffold tasks appropriately for the pupils in the class, including setting different tasks for individual pupils if appropriate
- Monitor the quality of the homework and assess in light of the departmental marking policy with verbal or written feedback. For some homeworks, it may be appropriate for the pupils to correct their own work or peer mark when homework is being reviewed.
- In Key Stage 3, break long term assignments into bite sized manageable tasks

The Amount of Homework

At the start of each academic year, each pupil will be made aware of their homework timetable and it will be available on the school website. The number of times homework is set in a week will vary with respect to the subject. For example, in Key Stage 3, English and Maths will set 2 homeworks a week whilst Performing Arts will not set homework.

Pupils will need to learn to manage their time to complete the work for the deadline. An indication of the expectation of the time spent on homework is as follows:

Year 7	30 minutes per homework
Year 8	35 minutes per homework
Year 9	45 minutes per homework
Years 10 – 11	60 minutes per homework and revision

Pupils are expected to:

- Complete all homework to the best of their ability within the timeframe set
- Ask for help with the activity before the deadline if they are experiencing any difficulties with the task
- Establish a regular homework routine
- Complete homework thoroughly and present work neatly and accurately

Parents / Carers are expected to:

Parents are encouraged to take an interest in their child's homework through accessing their parental 'EduLink One' account and talking to their child about the homework that has been set.

Parents should provide the best work environment where pupils can do their homework without the distractions of mobile phones and social media. This may include encouraging their child to attend one of the Prep Clubs.

Parents should check that homework has been completed.

Parents can sign a homework task off by writing a note in the homework, if the child has spent up to the recommended time on the homework task and it is still incomplete.

A homework club is available through the SEN Department for those pupils with learning difficulties. Prep Club Plus runs in Lab 7 from 3.20pm to 4.30pm, Monday – Thursday

available to pupils in all year groups who require additional support to complete their homework. It is supervised by TA Co-ordinators.

Prep Club runs 3.30pm to 5.00pm Monday – Thursday and on Friday 3.15pm to 4.15pm in C.ICT and is open to pupils in all year groups and supervised by a member of staff.

The library is open to pupils from all year groups from 3.15pm-4.25pm Monday – Thursday and is supervised by the librarian.

Printers are available in school for pupils to print off their homework prior to their lessons.