



St Aloysius' College

Homework Policy

Homework is an essential and integral part of the school curriculum. It is also a means by which the school can actively encourage the participation of parents in their child's learning. The following sets out some general guidelines which will assist departments in the development and implementation of their own homework timetable.

The amount and frequency of homework:

1. Homework should be set according to the published "Homework Timetable". This timetable should ensure that each subject sets one homework per week, with English, Mathematics and Science setting two homeworks per week.
2. In years 7 - 9, pupils should spend approximately ninety minutes on homework per night, in total. By year 10 this total duration should rise to approximately two hours, increasing as public examination requirements demand.
3. Departments will choose their homework night in September. This will be communicated to parents by mid-September.

The nature of homework:

1. This will vary from subject to subject. Each department will include in departmental documentation a statement as to the nature of homework tasks.
2. Not all tasks will be written: some may require reading and / or research, others may be of a learning or practical nature.
3. A variety of tasks should be set and teachers should avoid homeworks which simply require the completion of work started in class.
4. Tasks set should, clearly, take account of the ability and needs of the pupils. Tasks should be differentiated in the same way as classroom based tasks.
5. Teachers should take account of the needs of children with special educational needs and those for whom English is an alternative or other language when homework is set.

Recording of homework

1. Each pupil will be issued with a Homework Diary on the first day of the Autumn Term. Pupils should be instructed and reminded of the correct use of this diary and the reason why it is expected to be used properly.
2. Teachers will ensure that pupils are given time during the lesson to record the homework which has been given. Teachers must check that homework set is recorded by pupils.
3. Tutors will check the homework diaries weekly, ensuring that they are being kept properly and that they have been signed, on a weekly basis, by a parent.

4. Teachers will keep a record of homework set in the Teacher Planner, along with records of the lesson. Homework will be marked according to the marking policy and a record kept of the marks achieved in individual tasks set.
5. Teachers will comment on the quantity and quality of homework in both the short and long reports.
6. Teachers will inform parents, in the usual manner, of any deficiencies with regard to homework.

Support for homework tasks:

1. Pupils will be encouraged to attend the Homework Club which operates four nights a week in the Library.
2. Teachers will also respond to requests from pupils for assistance and be pro-active in attempting to ensure that the quality of the work being completed is satisfactory.
3. The school, through its communications with parents (Alychat, parental meetings, Parents Evenings, reports etc.) will ensure that the importance of homework is stressed. Parents will be encouraged to ask to see the homework being done, assist where possible, and insist on a repetition of the work if they consider it fails to reach an acceptable standard.