

Dominican College Homework Policy

The School Homework Policy sets out the rationale, agreed procedures and guidance of Dominican College, Portstewart on the setting, completion and assessment of homework. It also identifies the key responsibilities of pupils, teachers and parents with respect to homework. Copies of The Homework Policy are available on request.

Rationale

The school recognises that homework is an essential part of the learning process and that pupils who regularly do homework gain immeasurably from the experience.

Homework enables all pupils to demonstrate and apply the knowledge, understanding and skills acquired in class and to develop and enhance the core skills of literacy and numeracy.

Homework is one of the indicators of each individual pupil's progress and enables teachers to evaluate the effectiveness of classroom practice.

Homework is viewed as an integral part of the teaching and learning process, and is used as a valuable assessment tool.

All students are expected to complete homework every school night (Monday – Friday inclusive) and as a guide the following times are expected on an average night:

Year	Recommended daily homework time
Year 8	1 hour - 1 hour 30 mins
Year 9	1 hour 30 mins- 2 hours
Year 10	2 hours- 2 hours 30 Mins
Year 11	2 hours 30 mins- 3 hours
Year 12	3 hours
Year 13 and 14	3 hours (in addition to study periods)

Pupil responsibilities regarding Homework

At the start of each school year all pupils are provided with a homework diary to record details of homework. The homework diary should be brought to every lesson.

The homework diary should be signed by parents and Form teacher each week.

The homework diary remains the property of the school and pupils must ensure that the diary is maintained in a neat and tidy way and that the diary is free from graffiti.

Each pupil has the responsibility to:

- Accurately record each homework detailing, where appropriate, when each piece is set, how long it should take and when the work is to be submitted;
- Ensure that they allocate sufficient time to complete homework to the best of their ability, by the agreed deadline and in line with expected standards;
- Act on comments made by teachers in order to learn from their homework and improve future work;
- Ensure that all work missed through absence from class or involvement in extra-curricular activities, including music tuition and sports, is completed within a reasonable time frame;
- Review and evaluate each piece of work to help them reflect on what has been achieved as well as targeting specific areas for future improvement.

Whilst pupils will be encouraged to carry out independent research, they must ensure that all work submitted is their own.

School response to pupils failing to do homework

The following sanctions are subject to the discretion of individual class teachers:

ISSUE	ACTION BY CLASS TEACHER	ACTION BY FORM TEACHER
Failure to present homework (1st time)	Record problem on SIMS. Set a time for the presentation of the work. Inform parents in diary.	No action required
Failure to present homework for a second time (whether a new homework or failure to present previously required homework)	Record problem on SIMS. Set a time for the presentation of the work. Class teacher may give a class detention/extra work	No action required
Failure to present homework in a subject for a third time or subsequent time.	Record problem on SIMS. Set a time for the presentation of the work. Place pupils in after school detention as per detention policy (home to be informed). Inform the form teacher directly	On being informed by class teacher the form teacher should review all information on SIMS for this pupil. Discuss situation with pupil and contact home as appropriate.
Failure to produce homework across a range of subjects and/or repeatedly fail to bring proper books/equipment to class		Review information on SIMS. Discuss situation with pupil and contact home as appropriate.

For further detail refer to full Dominican College Homework policy