



Coláiste Iognáid S.J.

Bóthar na Mara, Gaillimh

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HOMEWORK POLICY

LINK TO MISSION STATEMENT

Coláiste Iognáid aspires to be a community wherein mutual respect, cooperation and justice are integral features. The school's ethos seeks to develop each student's religious, moral, social, intellectual and cultural sensibilities. Our Ignatian Vision guides procedures and processes within the school. Cura personalis is one of the defining features of the ethos of the college where each student will be cared for. The unique character of each person is acknowledged and valued. One of the central aspirations of the college is that we should be "people for others". All our policies are informed and guided by these principles.

INTRODUCTION BY THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Board of Management recognises the importance of Homework as part of a holistic education and is fully committed to following the key principles of best practice in implementing this policy. In developing this policy, we have given serious consideration to the child-centred principles of the school. The establishment of a sound learning environment at school and classroom level is critical to effective teaching and learning. This policy document sets out procedures for homework, applied to support staff, parents and students.

RATIONALE

Homework is an integral part of the learning process, and regular completion of homework contributes to the pursuit of academic excellence. It allows students to reinforce and reflect on the learning that took place in the classroom, it bridges the work of one day and another, offers opportunities for self-assessment and builds confidence needed to successfully sit exams. Homework should be seen as a positive experience, to help students develop their full potential and encourage independent learning, which is critical in the future steps of their education.



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Homework has the potential to strengthen the partnership in learning between parents/guardians and the school. Parental support and interest can have a very positive impact on students' performance.

TYPES OF HOMEWORK

Homework may involve the following:

- Practice exercises/written assignments from a textbook/workbook, worksheets, exam papers;
- Reading and answering review questions from the text;
- Memory work, vocabulary learning;
- Listening to or creating audio resources;
- Short research assignments, including practical work;
- Writing essays/reports;
- Revision work;
- Oral work;
- Inverted classroom – students read learning material or view a pre-recorded video before class with classroom time then being used to deepen understanding through discussion and problem-solving;
- Creative tasks such as mind maps, posters etc to synthesise, consolidate concepts;
- Completing online assignments.

The variety of tasks used ensures **differentiation** and gives all students the possibility to succeed according to their personal strengths.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Teachers should:

- Give meaningful homework tasks, differentiating the tasks;
- Communicate clearly to the students what they expect them to do, including deadlines for project submission, and give students time to record homework in their journal.



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Homework could also be posted on Microsoft Teams to allow students who are absent from school to engage with the work assigned;

- Ensure regular checks are made on homework;
- Give positive and constructive feedback to students;
- Help students on how to study;
- Communicate concerns to the relevant Year Head/AEN Team;

Homework should be corrected regularly in class, orally, by the students, by peers or outside of class by the teacher. Suggested answers to revision questions may be posted on Teams.

Resource and class teachers liaise together on homework

Students should:

- Record their homework in their homework journal
- Complete all homework diligently and on time, or present a note explaining the reason for not completing homework;
- Make sure to catch up on homework and classwork when absent including when they miss classes due to extracurricular activities;
- Seek clarification from teachers when they are unclear;
- Include time for review and revision as part of their homework each night.

Parents should:

- Ensure their children have a suitable study environment;
- Discuss homework with their children. Write a note for the teacher explaining why homework could not be completed;
- Review their children's work and support them in their homework;
- Encourage their children to include revision as part of their homework each night;
- Check journals regularly and communicate concerns using the journal if necessary.

DURATION OF HOMEWORK

Homework should be part of students' daily routine. The following are suggested guidelines on the amount of time that students should spend on their homework:



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Year Group	Homework Duration (max)
1 st and 2 nd years	1-2 hours
3 rd years	2-3 hours
5 th years	2 hours
6 th years	2-3 hours

The time spent at homework may vary depending on age and ability. During exam years, students are expected to do homework and study during weekends and holidays.

Students have full responsibility of successfully managing the time they spend on homework. The school organises regularly study skills workshops to help students in this regard.

POLICY PUBLICATION

This policy was adopted by the Board of Management on 29th April 2024.

REVIEW

This policy has been made available to school personnel. The policy is published on the school website and is available to parents and pupils on hardcopy upon request. A copy of this policy will be made available to the Department and the patron if requested.

RATIFICATION

This policy and its implementation will be reviewed by the Board of Management periodically. A record of the review and its outcome will be made available, if requested, to the patron and the Department.

Signed _____

Principal

Signed _____

Chairperson of Board of Management

Date: _____

29 April 2024