Preamble

Every child will be given appropriate homework or assignment work by his or her teachers as part of an integrated learning experience. Cooperation between students, teachers and parents always provides a solid basis for effective learning to occur.

Parents should assist their child in ensuring the planned completion of Homework every week, balanced with their child’s other commitments.

Every child should set aside time at home to study. Study is essential preparation for tests.

The Student

The purpose of homework is to:

• Consolidate class work through revision.
• Encourage regular study habits and help students become independent learners.
• Develop research techniques.
• Prepare for tests and examinations.

Student responsibilities:

• Use the school diary to record homework tasks, track due dates and assessment tasks.
• Work systematically throughout the week.
• Plan for study or revision as an important part of every week.
• Complete homework early to make meeting deadlines manageable.

Homework not completed on time

• There will be faculty based consequences, taking into consideration a particular student’s circumstances, for those who fail to complete their homework on time.
• If the homework is an assignment as part of the assessment schedule in a particular subject an ‘N Award’ warning, informing parents that the student has not met the outcomes in the subject, may be issued with the expectation that work is completed and submitted by a set due date.

The Teacher

Teacher responsibilities:

• Provide regular homework to students
• Check set homework and provide feedback.
• Reward students’ success in completing work at home and in meeting deadlines.
• Give students clear directions for completing work at home.
• Set homework relevant to lesson content, individual student ability and time availability.
• Use the school diary or other contact means to inform parents about homework.
• Ensure that appropriate consequences are clearly understood and implemented.

The Parent

Parents are encouraged to:

• Sight their child’s homework diary, give constructive advice and sign the diary when appropriate.
• Show an interest in their child’s academic commitments and support students in meeting those commitments and deadlines.
• Provide a written explanation, a note or Medical Certificate, when tasks are not completed on time and there are good reasons as to why the task was submitted late.
• Discuss issues with the school whenever the need arises.

Parents can assist their children with homework by:

• Being Interested
  • Ask about their day at school.
  • Ask to check their homework diary.
  • Ask questions that start with “Show me…”, “How was…”, “What did you learn today…” to encourage the child to talk about school.
  • Listen to what your child tells you.
  • Praise successes big and little.
  • Encourage them to keep doing their best and to keep trying hard at school.

• Encouraging homework and study by providing children with a suitable homework and study area where possible:
  • This area might include a table and a comfortable chair, good lighting and equipment such as paper, pens and pencils, a sharpener and coloured pencils.
  • Try to keep noise and distractions to a minimum and if possible turn off the television.

• Helping and encouraging children to be organised. It is important for children to learn to use their time efficiently for study and homework:

• Help child to keep a regular time for studying.
  • Help students make study timetables and stick to them. Seek assistance from teachers.
  • Help your children to be prepared for the next day by making sure homework is done and packed in the school bag.
• It is very important for students to have free time as part of their week/weekend.
• Provide access to additional information sources eg: local libraries, museums, galleries, homework club.