



WELLINGTON COLLEGE BELFAST

Homework Policy

Reviewed by Board of Governors October 2019

Introduction:

Homework refers to tasks given to pupils by their teachers to be completed outside of usual lessons. Homework is an essential part of a pupil's education. This policy aims to ensure that pupils are given the opportunity to develop specific skills, knowledge and understanding outside the classroom, without overburdening pupils or staff with homework and marking respectively.

Principles:

Learning at home is an essential part of a good education. Homework:

- supports the development of independent learning skills;
- supplements and reinforces work done in school;
- encourages effective study habits;
- can help pupils make progress in their learning;
- provides parents and carers with an opportunity to take part in their children's education.

Recording Homework:

The College uses **Show My Homework** to manage the homework process and measure the effectiveness of work set. For staff, it provides an easy way to set and communicate homework details. Pupils have a convenient way to see what homework has been set and parents will have a complete homework visibility so that they can fully support their child at home. The **Show My Homework** calendar can be accessed by pupils and parents. Pupils and parents will receive a PIN that, after logging in, will present the student and parent with a personalised calendar.

Roles and Responsibilities:

All pupils should:

- Take responsibility for checking **Show My Homework** and recording details of homework's
- Demonstrate a commitment to spending an allocated time doing the task set
- Complete all work set to the best of their ability
- Present homework neatly
- Hand homework's in on time
- Repeat homework which has not been completed to a satisfactory standard

All parents/guardians should:

- Aim to provide a suitable place in which pupils can do their homework
- Help their children to develop good study habits by encouraging a regular time for homework
- Make it clear to pupils that they value homework
- Expect deadlines to be met

All teaching staff should:

- Set regular homework which is purposeful and relevant
- Ensure that adequate time is given to complete the homework
- Ensure that all pupils have access to the materials required to complete the homework
- Record any homework related issues appropriately on SIMS and discuss these with the pupils
- Follow up homework which has not been completed to a satisfactory standard
- Mark written homework's regularly (in line with the ***Assessment and Marking Policy***), giving useful and timely feedback

Heads of Department (HODs) should:

- Ensure that all staff in department are following the Homework Policy
- Monitor the range of tasks set for homework, with the aim of ensuring that homework is purposeful and teacher marking is manageable
- Implement Departmental sanctions for pupils who fail to produce homework, namely detentions

Form Tutors and Heads of Year (HOYs) should:

- Ensure all students have access to ***Show My Homework*** and a Homework Diary (Years 8 – 12 only)
- Monitor repeat offenders across subjects and take action where appropriate
- Inform parents/guardians of persistent issues regarding non-production of homework at a satisfactory level

The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) should:

- Undertake regular homework reviews and student monitoring. The purpose of these reviews are to enable the SLT to get an overview of a range and quality of homework set, to monitor and report on homework set for each year group
- Monitor and evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of homework policies in consultation with teachers, parents/guardians/pupils

HOMWORK GUIDELINES

KEY STAGE 3 (Years 8, 9 and 10)

Pupils should spend approximately 90 minutes on homework per night. Pupils will have more homework in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science than in other subjects.

KEY STAGE 4 (Years 11 and 12)

Pupils should spend approximately 2 hours on homework per night. Revision and preparation for Controlled Assessments at certain times in the year will require further study at home.

KEY STAGE 5 (Years 13 and 14)

Pupils should spend approximately 3 hours per subject on homework each week. This should be supplemented by their own wider reading and study.

Homework in the College may take the form of:

- Learning homework's
- Reading
- Summarising of notes
- Planning
- Revision
- Exam question practice
- Preparation for class discussion
- Completing work from class
- Research
- Annotation of texts
- Preparation of materials for practical sessions
- Organisation of notes and materials.