



OUR
LADY'S
SCHOOL
TERENURE



Homework Policy

Ratified by the Board of Management on:

Date: 30th May 2022

Signature:

(Chairperson of the Board of Management)

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1. Introduction

Our Lady's School aims to enable each student to reach her full potential. Through regular homework and study, students develop their ability to analyse facts and ideas, to be discerning, to articulate their views and to acquire the skills for lifelong learning.

2. Rationale

- Regular homework is a valuable aspect of the learning process and contributes to the development of sound study skills.
- It consolidates and supplements the work done in class and promotes independent learning and creativity.
- It encourages self directed learning. Formative feedback on homework enables students to foster the essential skill of recognising areas for improvement and identifying elements of success in their own work.
- It enables parents to play a central role in their daughters' education as they become aware of their daughters' study of course material and their progress in relation to it.
- It encourages students to form positive working habits outside of the school day which are essential for exam preparation.
- It fosters research skills which are an integral aspect of self directed learning and essential skills for the completion of classroom based assessments in 2nd and 3rd Year.

3. Goals

- To enable students to reach their academic potential.
- To promote good study habits using different strategies that suit their own individual needs.
- To enhance students' organisational skills.
- To ensure an equitable distribution of study time for each subject via the Homework Captain who will liaise with subject teachers to ensure that the workload is evenly distributed.
- To ensure that students adopt a reflective approach to their study by considering their teachers' feedback and applying it to future assignments.

4. The Role of the Journal

- Each student is expected to keep a record of all homework in her school journal which is given by the school specifically for this purpose.
- From time to time, subject teachers may use the journal to communicate with parents if a

student fails to complete their homework. These written communications require acknowledgement by a parent/guardian's signature.

- Parents/guardians are advised to check their daughter's journal weekly to ascertain what homework is being assigned and to alert them to any issues surrounding the completion of that homework.

5. Time Spent on Homework

- The amount of time spent on homework will vary according to each student's ability and will fluctuate throughout the school year due to in house and state examinations.
- Homework should be completed within the timeframe identified by the class teacher and should reflect the student's ability.
- Students are expected to regularly revise all content that was taught in class as this is an important part of the consolidation process.
- If a student requires additional clarification regarding a topic that she is finding challenging, it is recommended that she would contact her subject teacher.

Students should not be employed in part time work during the school week.

Suggested hours per day for homework and revision:

1st Year	1/1.5hours
2nd Year	1.5hours
3rd Year	2.5hours
4th Year	1hour
5th Year	2.5 hours
6th Year	3 hours

6. Responsibilities of the Student

- It is the responsibility of the student to record all homework in their journal.
- Homework must be completed and presented on time in a neat and tidy manner to the best of the student's ability.
- If a student has been absent, she must ascertain from her teachers what homework has been set and must catch up within a reasonable timeframe.
- It is the student's responsibility to alert the teacher, before they leave the class, if they require clarification about the homework task.
- If students do not receive written homework, they are expected to revise material recently taught in class.
- Junior Cycle students must keep a record of pieces of work completed for the classroom based assessments which take place in 2nd and 3rd Year.

7. The Role of Parents/Guardians

- Parents/guardians are encouraged to provide a quiet, suitable place where students can complete their homework free of distractions and interruptions.
- It is advisable to follow a regular routine in relation to homework.
- 3rd, 5th and 6th Year students may attend After School Study in Our Lady's School.
- Parents/guardians will have the opportunity to meet their daughter's teachers at the annual parent/teacher meeting where their daughter's progress will be discussed.
- Parents/guardians are expected to check their daughter's journal every week and should sign any notes from teachers therein.

8. Study Skills

- 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 6th Year students attend annual study skills workshops that are facilitated by leading experts in this field.
- All students will participate in a Study Skills Week in order to create greater focus on their study in the lead up to November exams.
- Each individual subject teacher provides regular guidance on study methods within their specialist subject area.

9. Appropriate Tasks for Homework

Classroom teachers will assign homework assignments based on a broad range of methodologies. Such activities include but are not limited to:

- Written assignments
- Reading
- Project work
- Research tasks
- Practical assignments
- A visit to a location linked to the curriculum

10. Feedback

A variety of methods are used to correct homework in the classroom depending on the content and length of the assignment. Approaches include but are not limited to:

- Teacher correction
- Class correction
- Class discussion
- Peer assessment
- Self assessment under the direction of the teacher
- Formative feedback

Parents will receive school reports on their daughter's progress on a biannual basis and will also have the opportunity to attend an annual parent/teacher meeting.