

Castletroy College – Homework Policy

Homework is an essential element in the learning process. Parents are asked to co-operate fully in ensuring that their children maintain a consistently high standard of homework.

Aims of Homework Policy

Homework is an extension of schoolwork which is completed after school hours. It has several educational purposes:

- It reinforces work done in class.
- It allows students to test their powers of recall and learning.
- It prepares students for work to be done in the future.
- It develops a habit of independent study.

For homework to be effective and help students progress in their studies they need to be able to complete it. In order for this to happen it has to be matched to their ability.

Detailed advice and guidance regarding homework and study is included in all student journals under 'Study'.

Guidelines (Parents/Students)

Homework may take various forms such as writing, learning, revision, research, planning, drawing, sound files and Google Classroom assignments. It may include coursework for assessment. A student is never able to say, "I have no homework". They must revisit the work covered in class and make it their own.

The amount of homework set will increase as students progress from First Year to Leaving Certificate. First Years will receive 10-15 minutes of homework in each subject each night. This provision will occur for the first month in order for students to settle into school life. After this first month students will receive the amount of homework as deemed necessary by the subject teacher. In First Year, students may expect to get at least 1 hour 30 minutes of homework each night but this may vary from time to time.

Teachers will write the homework on the board during each class to ensure students understand what is expected of them. Homework and assignments will be posted in Google Classroom as appropriate. It is important for parents to support students in accessing and participating in Google Classroom.

The Castletroy College Student Digital Learning Hub is where students can get support with digital learning. It includes links to information on digital

learning, student "how to" guides and video tutorials on all the tools used in Google Workspace. This includes tutorials for how to submit assignments in Google Classroom on different devices. Use the drop down menus at the top of every page or click on the image links on the front page to find support for working with Google Workspace.

During school closure and at the discretion of the school and individual teachers homework may be posted in Google Classroom. The Castletroy College Student Digital Learning Hub ensures that students have access to appropriate support for online learning when they are unable to attend school.

The Castletroy College Student Digital Learning Hub can be accessed from a link on the front page of the school website or at: <https://sites.google.com/castletroycollege.ie/digitallearninghub/home>

The main purpose of the school journal is to record homework; students are expected to record homework each day. Parents are expected to check the homework allocated and ensure that it is completed.

In the event of a student being absent due to extra-curricular activity it is their responsibility to get the homework given that day in school. In the event of a student being absent from school due to illness it is their responsibility to organise all notes they missed out on.

If parents wish to write a note for a student excusing them from homework it must be written into the journal only. A record will be kept by each subject teacher of each time a student has no homework done and the reason offered.

Rewards

Merits may be issued to students who are consistently performing well and to those who have improved.

Sanctions and Supports

The regularity of completing homework is a benchmark of a student's motivation and is to be used as a means of monitoring a student's progress. Teachers will inform parents either by telephone or a note in the student's homework journal of ongoing difficulties a student may be having with homework. Teachers will discuss with students, difficulties regarding homework and address these.

Where a student has not completed homework it will be at the discretion of the teacher to give a note in the journal; a note may also be given for incomplete oral work.

A sanction is to be given where homework is not done or not handed in or is of poor quality. Class Tutors, Year Heads and Assistant Year Heads will also monitor students' level of consistency in the area of homework.

I agree to abide by this Homework Policy to the best of my ability

Student: _____ Parent/Guardian: _____

This policy was adopted by the Board of Management on 17/2/22

Date of next review: September 2023