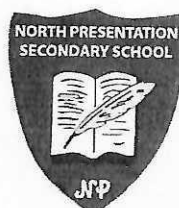


# North Presentation Secondary School

## Homework Policy



Ratified by the Board of Management on 20/05/19

Signed Richard A Brett Chairperson

Review 2022

## **RATIONALE**

Homework fosters student's independent learning and responsibility. Homework is a central part of the learning process. Learning continues through the completion of homework. Parents/Guardians play an important role in assisting and supporting the completion of homework.

## **TYPES OF HOMEWORK**

There are many different types of homework:

- Homework can be short term, for example due for the next day, or long term, for example the writing of an essay or the completion of a project.
- Homework can be written work, practical work, learning or revision of work previously done.
- Homework may be assigned as part of a group or on an individual basis.

## **HOW HOMEWORK CAN HELP LEARNING**

- Review and practice what has been learned in class during the day. It is an extension of classroom learning and experience. It is used to extend the student's insight of a lesson and to revise work previously done.
- Students practice new skills and concepts and become more competent in their use.
- Students are introduced to independent learning – the completion of projects, the use of local library for research and the use of the internet.
- By doing homework students develop study skills and it encourages independence, motivation, self-discipline and responsibility.
- Homework helps to identify difficulties with a subject and gives students the opportunity to ask for help.

## **TIME ALLOCATED TO HOMEWORK**

Recommended time to be allocated to homework varies depending on the number of subjects per day, for each day between subjects, test and in the lead up to Midterm, Christmas and Summer exams.

The recommended daily time to be allocated to homework is as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Years – 1 hour
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Years – 1 ½ hours
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Years – 2 hours
- Transition Year – Project work, participation in Transition Year activities
- 5<sup>th</sup> Year – 3 hours
- 6<sup>th</sup> Year – 3 hours plus planned revision time

## **Importance of Homework**

- Homework is regarded as an extension of classwork and as a preparation for the next day's work.
- Homework, both written and oral, is considered of equal value and importance.

- In order to achieve, students must be prepared to spend time studying and revising as well as doing their homework.
- It is very important that a student's best effort is made at all times.

### **Suggestions for Organising Homework**

- Find a quiet place where possible and establish a routine.
- Try to avoid all obvious distractions, TV, Radio, Noise and **turn off** the Mobile Phone.
- Homework should be completed early in the evening rather than late at night.
- Try to complete homework on the night it is given, even though it may not be required for the next day, while the instructions from the teacher are clear in your memory.
- Take notes when studying, highlight key areas, headings etc. Make out flashcards. These will be used later for revision.
- Use the text books or notes given in class to help answering written questions.
- When a student has to learn off material such as vocabulary, grammar, definitions, diagrams or formulae, they should test themselves regularly and keep testing until they know it. Have a learning copy to write out what you have learned.
- Make sure all written work is neat and tidy and always have a date and a title.
- When homework is completed, check your timetable and schoolbag to ensure that all books, copies, PE gear and materials etc. are ready for the next day.

### **Students and Homework**

Each student is given a journal at the beginning of the year to record details of homework for each school day.

**The following practice should be observed by all students in relation to their journal.**

- Date to be entered at the top of each day.
- Separate entries for different subjects.
- Students should record carefully the instructions for their homework including deadline for completion.
- When homework is completed, a mark should be made to show this.

### **Additionally**

- They should ask questions, when necessary, to clarify the assignment.
- Before leaving school in the evening they should check that they have all the books, copies and any other material needed for that night's homework.
- Students should carefully plan for the completion of long-term projects.
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**NB** If a student is absent from class, she should find out what work was missed and what homework was given. Those involved in extracurricular activities must also complete their homework. For this purpose it is worthwhile having a contact number of another student who was present in class.