



St Richard Reynolds Catholic High School

Policy: Homework

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Aims

At St Richard Reynolds Catholic College, we consider homework to be an integral part of the curriculum and a valued part of a balanced education, as well as supporting students to develop as independent, resilient learners. The work set usually reinforces what is taught in the lesson and enables students to take responsibility for their own learning. We see homework as an enriching and essential part of the learning process. We have high standards and the expectation is that all homework will be completed to the best of the student's ability and on time. Homework will not be set simply for the sake of it, but only when it serves a useful purpose.

If a student finds a piece of homework very challenging, they are advised to ask for additional support from their teacher ahead of any submission deadlines so that they can achieve their best. If a student is absent from school for whatever reason, it is their responsibility to see their teacher on their return to College and catch up on work missed as soon as possible.

The purpose of homework is:

- To fully embed classroom learning and to take ownership and responsibility for learning.
- To encourage students to develop the confidence and self-discipline for independent work, an essential skill for adult life.
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, and demonstrate this understanding.
- To enable students to devote time to particular independent study demands such as is required at GCSE/A Level assessments or project work.
- To extend work covered in lessons or prepare for new learning activities.
- To allow students to research a topic at depth, that develops an individual passion or flair for the subject.
- To develop research skills.
- To promote parental engagement and support

Students' responsibilities are to:

- Record homework and deadline in planner (Year 7) or check Show My Homework (Year 7 – 11) or Google Classroom (Sixth Form).
- Check SMHW or Google Classroom (KS3/4 and KS5 respectively) regularly.
- Complete homework to the best of their ability.
- Ensure that deadlines are kept.
- In the event of absence, find out what classwork and homework has been missed and catch up on it.
- Inform the subject teacher of any difficulties in advance of deadline where possible

Parents'/Carers' responsibilities are to:

- Provide a quiet place to work.
- Negotiate with the student when homework is to be done.
- Have regular access to SMHW in order to familiarise themselves with the homework that is being set, deadlines and time to be spent.
- If parents/carers have any concerns about homework, they should contact the teacher or Form Tutor in the first instance.
- In Year 7 check the homework planner to ensure homework is recorded, and sign weekly to acknowledge homework is being recorded and completed. In all other years, to have a regular conversation about homework, what is being studied and that it is being completed on time and to the best of the child's ability.

Subject Teachers' responsibilities are to:

- Set homework and record on SMHW in line with school and departmental policy
- Set differentiated homework where appropriate
- Give full and comprehensive instructions.
- Set deadlines for completed work and ensure that they are met.
- Take into account any assessments in the school calendar when setting homework to ensure student well-being.
- Mark and give feedback (if appropriate) in accordance with the school Marking and Feedback policy and return all homework promptly.
- Provide help and support
- Set sanctions for non completion of homework in line with departmental policy.
- Inform Subject Leader, Tutor and Head of Year, as appropriate when problems arise.

Subject Leaders' responsibilities are to:

- Ensure that all teachers in their department are setting appropriate homework, recorded on SMH, in line with departmental policy.
- Take into account any assessments in the school calendar when setting homework to ensure student well-being.
- Take into account if other subjects have set project work when setting project work themselves.
- Set sanctions for non completion of homework in line with departmental policy.

Form Tutors' responsibilities are to:

- In Year 7 check student planners to ensure homework is being recorded and completed. Note and respond to any comments written in planners by parents/carers and teachers.
- In all other years keep a regular check on ClassCharts and notice any trends or issues associated with non completion of homework and respond to parent/carer/teacher concerns via email or telephone conversation.

Homework during exam periods:

- During this time, students should only be set homework that is revision based or relevant to exam preparation. However, any student with previous outstanding work will be expected to complete all this during this period.

Individual Needs and SEN:

- Some students may have their homework differentiated by amount, task or outcome. Rewards and sanctions will still apply but individual needs are taken into account. Parents and carers are encouraged to work with the school and may contact the Form Tutor in the first instance with specific concerns.

Recommended Time Allocation:

Year	Subjects per night	Total time per night
7	3 x 20 minutes	60 minutes
8	3 x 30 minutes	1 hour 30 minutes
9	3 x 30 minutes	1 hour 30 minutes
10	2 – 3 x 60 minutes	2 – 3 hours
11	2 – 3 x 60 minutes	2 – 3 hours
Sixth Form	3 x 60 minutes	3 hours

As well as the homework set by class teachers, students are expected to complete 1 hour reading a week and at least 1 hour of co-curricular activity that develops the individual, for example: music practice, sports clubs or a long walk.

For GCSE it is assumed that Maths, English, Science and MfL will set 2 pieces of homework a week and all other subjects 1.

In addition to set homework tasks, students should be encouraged to visit revision sites such as SAM Learning, BBC Bitesize and MyMaths, where there is a wealth of resources available to support learning.