

LARGY COLLEGE
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
CAVAN AND MONAGHAN EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD
BORD OIDEACHAIS AGUS OILIÚNA AN CHABHÁIN AGUS MHUINEACHÁIN

Largy College Homework Policy

Policy Group: *Marian McMahon, Colette Smith, Stephen Smyth, Shane Wixted and Marie Donohoe.*
Amended by Assistant Principals

Date of Policy formation: 27th August 2013

Statement of Purpose:

Homework is an important part of a child's education and it plays a vital role in the education process. The teaching staff of Largy College places great emphasis on the setting of purposeful, well planned homework which is designed to assist each child in reaching his/her potential. It consolidates and supplements the work done in class and promotes independent learning and creativity.

Objectives of Homework:

It is important that we all understand the purposes of homework:

- It consolidates the work done in the classroom, aids revision and provides practice for examinations.
- It encourages pupils to develop the skills, confidence and motivation needed to study effectively on their own.
- It promotes the development by students of good study habits and effective study skills.
- It enables students to develop a capacity to organise their own work.
- It enables the subject teachers to assess pupil progress effectively, challenge students and to raise the achievement levels of all pupils.

- It makes students responsible for their own learning e.g. if a student misses class, he/she is responsible for catching up on work missed.
- It provides parents with information on their child's progress at school and sustains the involvement of parents in the management of student's learning and keeping them informed about the work students are doing.
- It extends school learning, for example through additional reading.

The Largy College Homework Journal is compulsory for all pupils. It forms a means of communication between parent(s)/guardian(s), individual teachers and Year heads and is essential for carrying out these objectives.

Roles and Responsibilities:

Board of management:

- To ensure that the policy is developed and evaluated from time to time.
- To approve the policy
- To consider reports from the Principal on the implementation of the policy.

Principal, Deputy Principal and Year Heads:

- To establish structures and procedures for the implementation of the policy
- To monitor the implementation of the policy.

The Teacher:

- To promote quality learning, this includes the setting of homework: written, learning, practical, revision or self-directed.
- To ask pupils to record homework into their Journals and teachers should allow adequate time for pupils to record their homework in their journals.
- To ensure all homework is corrected or examined within an appropriate time frame.
- To impose sanctions on pupils who do not turn in good quality homework or present no homework and do not present a signed note from their form teacher.
- To communicate with parent(s)/guardian(s), a note may be written into the pupil's Journal to inform parent(s)/guardian(s) that no homework was presented in class and also it is documented on eportal.
- To record homework done or not done.
- To discuss at parent-teacher meetings any concerns relating to homework.

The Role of Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

- In the interest of quality learning parent(s)/guardian(s) are asked to ensure that homework assignments are completed on time and that good quality work is presented in a neat and tidy fashion.
- It is important to ensure that your child has a routine for doing their homework. This routine should be established very early in the school year. The appropriate times for homework are as follows: *we*

suggest the following only as a broad guideline regarding the duration of homework based on best practice and is not definitive. Per night:

1 st Year	1 ½ hours
2 nd Year	2 ó 2 ½ hours
3 rd Year	2 ½ - 3 hours
4 th Year	1 ó 2 hours
5 th Year	2 ½ - 3 hours
6 th Year	3 ó 4 hours

- Parent(s)/Guardian(s) should sign the homework Journal every week.
- Homework for Junior and senior pupils should be checked on a nightly basis. Where legitimate reasons arise and homework cannot be completed, a note must be given to your child for school the following day explaining why your child could not complete homework given.
- Parent/guardian should attend parent-teacher meetings to discuss any homework concerns that may arise during the year.
- If a parent needs to talk to an individual teacher in relation to homework concerns, an appointment can be made to meet with the teacher through the Principal's office. +

The Role of the Pupil:

- It is important that all homework is completed on time and presented in class by the due date for correction.
- If homework cannot be completed on time a note must be presented to your subject teacher, from home explaining why. Pupils are expected to catch-up on homework missed and any class notes.
- Sanctions such as detention and/or punishment work will be given to pupils who repeatedly fail to hand up completed homework or have poorly attempted homework.
- The school Journal is compulsory and must be presented in each class and left visible on school desk.
- All homework received must be entered into the homework Journal at the end of each class.
- Pupils must present the Journal to Parent(s)/Guardian(s) once a week for them to sign.
- When a student is absent for a full day or part of a day for any reason, including for an extra-curricular activity, it is the student's responsibility to catch up on homework.

Implementation Procedures:

Each Subject Department, the JCSP programme, Transition Year Programme and LCA Programme will all develop guidelines on the homework/study skills appropriate and this will be reinforced in class.

Sanctions:

- If a student fails to attempt work without valid reason (note from parent), or shows an obvious disinterest in doing same, teachers will note the first offence in teacher's handbook and student journal. Persistent failure to do homework is then recorded on E-Portal.
- In the event of repeated failures to do homework the teacher will apply the agreed sanctions within the school code of behaviour and maintain records for future parent interviews.

- Parents will be contacted by the Year Head when a student regularly fails to present appropriate homework.

Evaluation:

The effectiveness of this homework policy needs to be monitored and evaluated. It is envisaged that each subject department monitors homework within the department at subject department meetings. Teachers need to evaluate the quality of homework and the contribution it is making to learning. The system can also be evaluated through staff appraisal at staff meetings. In addition to monitoring arrangements the homework policy needs to be reviewed regularly to assess its effectiveness. The key criterion should be the extent to which the policy is contributing to the progress students make at school and their attitude to learning.

Adopted by the Board of Management

Signed: _____

Chairperson

Date: 11th February 2014

Signed: _____

School Principal

Date: 11th February 2014

Review Date: _____