



## **HOMEWORK:**

In Scoil Chonglais, we recognise the importance of homework and study to assist students in reaching their full potential. Homework is, in our opinion, a very important part of the school day and the teaching and learning process. It gives students the opportunity to revise and reflect on material covered in class each day; to see if they have followed and understood the topic covered and to reflect on further questions they may have for the teacher the following day. Homework involves oral, aural and written work; learning, revision and study and is vital for examination success. Here is a list of the many types of homework your son/ daughter may receive. This list is not exhaustive:

### **Examples:**

Written	Reading
Investigations	Interviews
Experiments	Essay writing
Learning Work	Research
Visits to a library	Report writing
Vocabulary	Oral and Aural work
Music practice	Spelling
Designing	Revision
Model making	Drawing/painting
Preparing a presentation	Projects – individual or group
Reflection	

### **Amongst the many recognised benefits of homework are:**

- Active student involvement in the teaching and learning process.
- Increased student engagement in their own learning.
- Homework allows teachers to assess how well, or otherwise, students are coping with class material and course content and how well learning objectives are being achieved.

- It helps to identify strengths and weaknesses in areas of learning.
- It prepares students for the next part of a topic and/ or the next topic.
- Homework and study helps each student to build self-confidence and to develop organisational skills and self-discipline.
- It strengthens the link between home and school.
- Homework gives parents a chance to become involved in their son or daughter's education.
- Homework allows for the personalisation and assimilation of material covered.
- It develops more responsible learners.

### **How much homework should each child do?**

Homework is an essential part of the teaching and learning process and your son/ daughter will not reach their potential if they do not spend time on their homework (written, homework, learning, reflecting and study). **Your son/ daughter will always have homework.** We believe that, on average, your son/ daughter should be spending 1 to 1 ½ hours on their homework each night in first year with a little extra time spent on it over the weekend. This should increase to 2 to 2 ½ hours in second year and 3 to 3 ½ hours in 3<sup>rd</sup>. year. At Senior Cycle, 15 to 20 hours per week is essential as a minimum, during Fifth Year to ensure a good grounding for the Leaving Certificate Examination. During Sixth Year, as the Leaving Cert. Examination approaches, students will need to spend even more time on homework and study. We strongly recommend that students do not undertake part- time work during their time at Senior Cycle as this can adversely affect their performance in the Leaving Certificate Examination. The school offers supervised study for students to assist them in their work.

### **Parental involvement:**

It is important that each parent would encourage his/ her child to work to the best of his/her ability at all times in order to reach their potential. Aside from this, parents can also help in practical terms by:

- Ensuring each student has a suitable place at home to study.
- Providing space and quiet time so that the student can concentrate.
- Observing how students are getting on and offering help as necessary and appropriate
- Discussing with them from time to time, how they are getting on.
- Encouraging them to write out their subjects in their journals each evening, on completion of their homework, so that they are ready physically and mentally for the following day.
- Checking journals to see if any of your son/ daughter's teachers are communicating with you. Teachers often write a note in the journal if there is something causing concern or to note a piece of work well done.
- Checking the 'Tracking my Progress' section at the back of the journal to be kept up to date on how your son/ daughter is getting on.

- Encouraging your son/ daughter and praising positive efforts.
- Communicating with the teacher through the journal or by phone if there are any concerns
- Checking your daughter's/son's copies and showing an interest in their work.
- Checking your daughter's/son's Homework Journal and ensuring that you sign the Homework Journal each week.
- Ensuring that your daughter/son has the proper books and equipment ready for each school day.