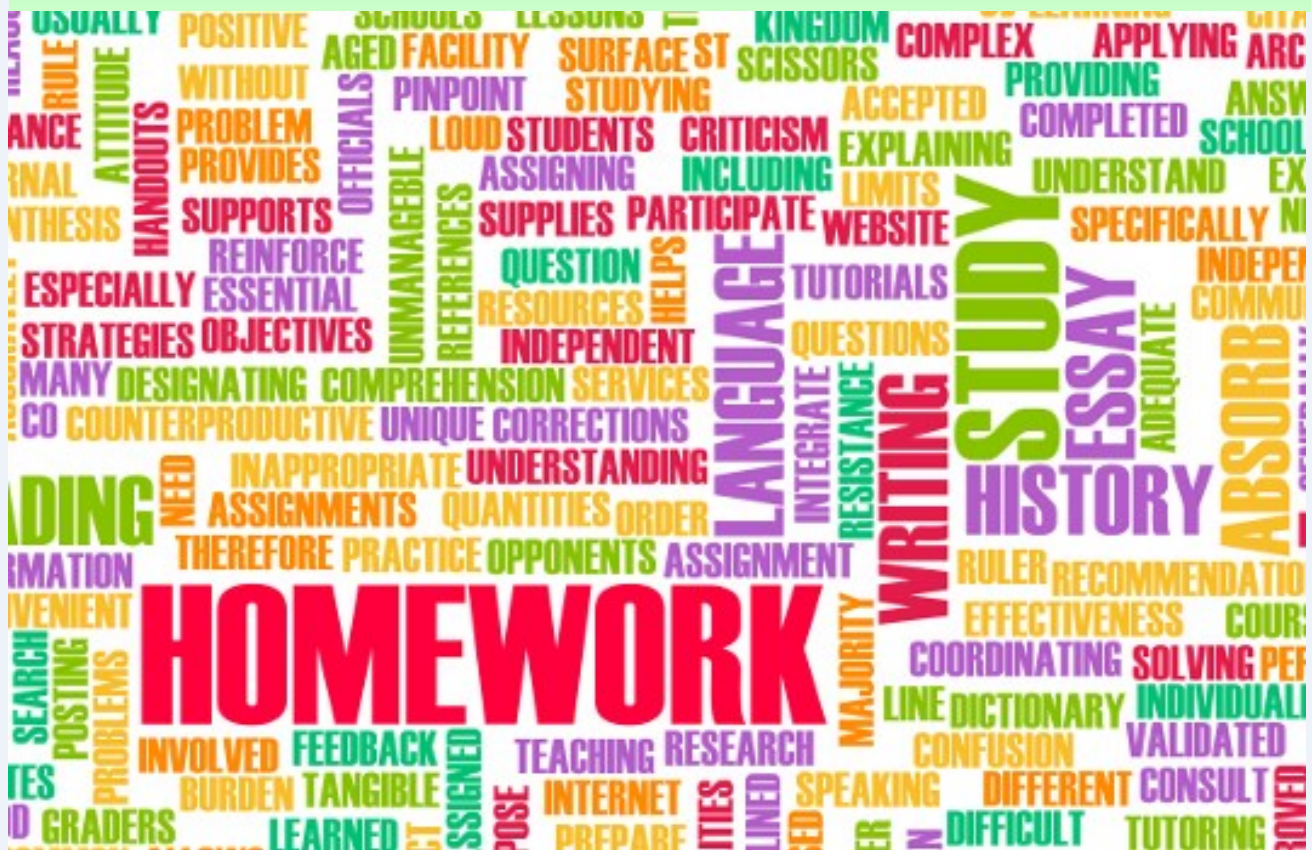




HOME LEARNING POLICY



“In partnership with parents, guardians, governors, staff and students, St Louise’s promotes excellence in learning and teaching within a Catholic, Vincentian, Comprehensive ethos”



Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education.

Most parents recognise that home-learning is a valuable and essential part of school work.

Home-learning includes any work which is undertaken at home: written work which covers course work and assignments; learning work - study of content and memorisation, grammar, spelling, vocabulary; practice of skills relating to Art, Music, ICT (Information Technology), Dance, Technology; the development of creativity; reading for pleasure and general information; and of course revision.

The minimum amount of time devoted to home-learning and study depends upon the stage of education and the demands of the curriculum.

The purposes of home-learning/home study include:

- (a) consolidating or extending work covered in school;
- (b) preparing for the next lesson;
- (c) providing opportunity for students to work independently;
- (d) helping students recognise the link between good study habits and highest standards of achievement.

KEY STAGE 3

In First Year (Year 8) and Second Year (Year 9)

1½ hours is advocated in order to help the girls acquire positive attitudes towards study and to establish good working habits.

In Third Year (Year 10) the recommended time is increased to 2 hours because -

- (a) the level of difficulty is increasing;
- (b) the whole of KS3 work has to be revisited and reviewed; and
- (c) KS3 Assessments and the Junior Examinations come at the end of Third Year.

KEY STAGE 4

The time devoted to home-learning and home-study in Years 11 and 12 is increased to a minimum of 3 hours in order to help girls -

- (a) keep abreast of the demands of GCSE programmes;
- (b) meet the deadlines for coursework;
- (c) avoid excessive anxiety and pressure.

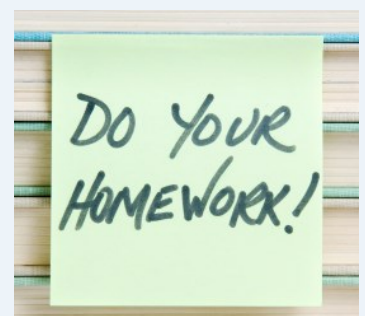
Many students work for longer than the time recommended by the school. This often reflects the girl's pride, enjoyment and desire to achieve high standards.

POST 16

Students embarking on A Level, Applied and Vocational Courses need to be highly committed to their own success. In practical terms this can mean at least 3-4 hours concentrated study each evening. Other commitments (part time jobs or socialising) need to be severely curtailed.

PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ To support the school's policy.
- ✓ To check that any written home-learning is completed and signed.
- ✓ To monitor the quality of home-learning tasks.
- ✓ To create an environment conducive to study (a quiet place with good lighting).
- ✓ To ensure sufficient time is taken for the completion of written/learning work.
- ✓ To encourage revision work.
- ✓ To encourage a positive attitude to home-learning and home-study.
- ✓ To contact the Head of Year if there are problems.



STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ To note in their Home Learning Planner the assigned home-learning tasks.
- ✓ To spend the full required amount of time on home-learning/home study.
- ✓ To produce best quality work.
- ✓ To apply the guidelines in the Home Learning Planner to each piece of written home-learning.
- ✓ To get home-learning tasks signed.
- ✓ To submit written work/course work on time.
- ✓ To record levels/grades on Learning and Assessment Calendars in Home Learning Planners.
- ✓ To make improvements on the basis of teacher's comments by changing Learning Points into Action Points.
- ✓ To get learning work tested.
- ✓ To set targets for improvement.

SCHOOL'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ To familiarise students with a range of strategies for studying.
- ✓ To help students with the effective organisation of time.
- ✓ Subject Teacher to adhere to the expected number of home-learning tasks as specified in the Topic Overviews.
- ✓ To correct written home-learning tasks in line with the Assessment Policy.
- ✓ To set and test learning work.
- ✓ To keep a record of levels/grades attained in home-learning tasks.
- ✓ To ensure that a home learning task is set each night.
- ✓ Head of Department to monitor the quality/quantity of home-learning tasks on a regular basis.
- ✓ Senior members of staff to monitor the quality and quantity of students work across subjects.
- ✓ Form Tutor to check evidence of home-learning in morning Registration and to check home-learning tasks are recorded in Home Learning Planners in afternoon Registration.