



STUDY & HOMEWORK

IN THE

JUNIOR CYCLE

**GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS
& PUPILS**

Advice for Parents

- Please read the “tips” for pupils
- Please ensure that the advice given is adhered to
- Ensure that there are no distractions at the place of study such as mobile phones, TV, computers
- Encourage and support the child in study
- Check the pupil’s journal for work set and work completed.
- Check homework with child – but “do not do”
- Encourage reading and read with child at times
- Encourage a balance between study, social interaction and participation in extra-curricular activities
- Communicate with teacher or College if there are difficulties
- As child heads for 3rd year they should be encouraged to be more independent in application to study

Suggested Time (approximate) spent on Study and Homework

Key point - ensure that work is done thoroughly and to the best of the child's ability

- Preps 1 hour per day and none at weekends
- 1st Year up to 1 ½ hours per day
- 2nd Year up to 2 hours per day
- 3rd Year 2 ½ to 3 hours per day

Absence from Class

If a pupil is absent from class(es) it is the responsibility of the pupil to catch up on work that has been missed. For example, a pupil may be absent due to a brief illness, a music lesson, an extra curricular activity. Extra curricular activities should not be used as an excuse for not producing work. If a pupil has a concern then he/she should consult with the subject teacher.

In the case of longer planned or un-planned absences the pupil or parent should consult with the year head for advice

Addendum : The purpose of Study and Homework

1. To reinforce and practise what is learnt in class
2. To get feedback from teacher
3. Preparation for tests and examinations including revision work
4. Encourage independent study and learning and regular reviewing of work
5. Provide time to develop standards and the presentation of work
6. Completion of class work and coursework
7. Foster understanding of, interest in and love of subject

Tips for Pupils

1. Form good habits
 - a. study at same place each day/evening
 - b. no TV, mobile phone or computer in room
 - c. decide on time required for each homework or assignment
 - d. if you have additional time look ahead to work set for later in the week or review and study earlier work
 - e. take short breaks & reward yourself when work is finished

2. Get organised before you start – have a clear desk or table
 - a. Homework journal
 - b. Text books and copy books
 - c. Pens, pencils, drawing equipment

3. Use your homework journal
 - a. Write down homework as it is set
 - b. Tick off when you complete homework
 - c. Look for opportunity to do long term work

4. Time management- see note 1 above
 - a. Do work at same time each evening
 - b. Allocate time for each assignment
 - c. Take short breaks
 - d. Use any “leftover” time to review work
 - Summarise topic in notes or bullet point form
 - Summarise chapter in text
 - Select questions from revision exercise at end of topic or chapter
 - Highlight headings, key facts, dates etc in book
 - Read

5. Tackling a test or exam paper
 - a. Read all of question or paper before you start
 - b. Allocate time for each question – spend more time on questions worth more marks
 - c. Answer your “best” question first
 - d. If you get “stuck” move on and come back to “stuck” part again
 - e. Correct test or exam as soon as possible