



Coláiste Pobail Acla

## Homework Policy

**Coláiste Pobail Acla,  
Polranny,  
Achill,  
Co. Mayo.**

**Roll No.:** 76150V  
**Phone:** 09845139  
**Email:** [info@cpacla.ie](mailto:info@cpacla.ie)  
**Web:** [www.colaistepobailacla.ie](http://www.colaistepobailacla.ie)

## **Contents**

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Rationale**
- 3. Partnership**
- 4. Roles and Responsibilities**
  - 4.1. Students are required
  - 4.2. Homework/Study Periods
  - 4.3. Parents/Guardians are encouraged
  - 4.4. Subject Teachers are expected
  - 4.5. Class Tutor are expected
  - 4.6. Principal, Deputy Principal
  - 4.7. Board of Management
- 5. Time Spent on Homework**
- 6. Declaration**

## **1. Introduction**

This policy is rooted in the school's fundamental aim to foster in all students a spirit of self-reliance, independence, co-operation and responsibility and to provide them with skills for life-long learning. Homework is work specified by the subject teacher and written into the Homework Diary. Study/revision is what you do when you are finished your homework, it may not necessarily be noted in the Diary.

## **2. Rationale**

Regular homework/study is seen by Coláiste Pobail Acla teachers as a vital aspect of the learning process when it is properly structured leading to independent learning, sound study skills and creativity. It also reinforces the learning in the classroom and allows students to take responsibility for their own education. In first year and second year it develops necessary skills of writing, reading, time management, and study techniques in preparation for State Examinations in the future. It is also seen as a good tool to monitor progress, to motivate and to give feedback to students. Homework for students in third year, fifth year and sixth year is vital to achieving their full potential in the State Examinations, allowing progression to third level study. Students with special education needs should be assigned homework in accordance with their ability in consultation with special needs co-ordinator, special needs teachers and parents/guardians.

## **3. Partnership**

The Class Tutor will outline the school's policy on homework to all first-year students at induction and to each new student on first arriving at the school. The Class Tutor will explain to students the role they have to play in implementing the school policy and the rationale behind the policy. Class Tutors will continue to do this at the start of each subsequent year during a student's schooling in Coláiste Pobail Acla.

There are at least five partners involved in the successful implementation of the school's policy on Homework. They each have a significant role to play. They are;

- The Student
- Parents/Guardians
- The Subject Teacher
- Class Tutors
- School Management

## **4. Roles and Responsibilities**

### **4.1. Students are required;**

- To use the homework journal to note down homework set by the subject teacher.
- To do homework set, both oral/learning and written/practical.
- To present written homework properly and on time.
- To be aware that parents/guardians will be informed when homework is not done, and detention may be arranged to enable the student to complete the work under supervision.
- To make every effort to be up to date with homework even when they are absent from school.

The role of Parents/Guardians is seen as vital to the successful implementation of the school's policy on homework.

### **4.2. Homework/Study Periods**

Where a student has not been assigned work for a class period due to a teacher absence, he/she must use this time as a homework/study period. This is supervised by a member of staff and will be very beneficial to the student.

### **4.3. Parents/Guardians are encouraged;**

- To support school policy.
- To provide suitable conditions for homework, e.g., a suitable desk, quiet area, etc.
- To ensure that the suggested amount of time is spent on homework.
- To sign the homework journal weekly.
- To monitor the homework journal so that they are aware of what homework is given and to view any teacher comments that may have been written.
- To discuss with the teacher or the class tutor any problems that arise concerning homework.

### **4.4. Subject Teachers are expected;**

- To set and correct homework.
- To implement the policy, review homework assignments and provide feedback to students.
- To instruct students in homework/study skills.
- To provide feedback to parents/guardians via the journal when a difficulty arises and when a student presents good homework.
- To keep records of homework set, grades and comments.
- To advise students on good study techniques for their subject.
- To be mindful of students with special needs when assigning homework.
- To liaise with class tutor when issues repeatedly arise around the completion of homework by any student.

**4.5. Class Tutors are expected;**

- To identify students experiencing difficulties.
- To provide support and guidance, especially for those having trouble.
- To liaise with subject teachers and support teachers, especially in relation to consideration for students with special educational needs.
- To discuss with students as part of pastoral care how they are getting on with their homework/study.
- To contact Parents/Guardians when persistent difficulties arise.

**4.6. Principal, Deputy Principal**

- To establish structures and procedures for the implementation of the policy
- To monitor the implementation of the policy
- To make sanctions available for students who regularly fail to complete homework

**4.7. Board of Management**

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

**5. Time Spent on Homework**

The amount of time per subject per night will depend on the year group, language barriers and levels of ability. The amount of homework received by each student will also depend on the subjects on the timetable for each day, i.e., where a student has multiple practical classes in one day there may be less homework assigned, additional study should replace homework on those nights. Below you will find the minimum time students should spend on homework each night.

The following specific times are suggested.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Year ..... 10 to 15 minutes per subject. Minimum total of 1 hour
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Year ..... 1.5 hrs + Study
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Year ..... 2 hrs + Study
- Transition Year.....1 hr + Study
- 5<sup>th</sup> Year ..... 2.5 hrs + Study
- 6<sup>th</sup> Year ..... 3 hrs + Study

## 6. Declaration

This Coláiste Pobail Acla Policy was formed following consultation with staff, members of the Board of Management, Parents/Guardians and the Student Council. It is recommended that this policy be reviewed every three years or whenever it is deemed necessary by School Management. It was adopted by the Board of Management of Coláiste Pobail Acla on:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Mrs. Bina Munnely

Chairperson of the Board of Management

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Paul Fahy

Board Secretary & School Principal (Acting)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_