



Homework Policy

2025

School Details:

Greenhills Community College is an all boy's Second-level School under the Trusteeship of the Dublin and Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board (DDLETB).

School Management:

The Board of Management of Greenhills Community College is a statutory Board appointed pursuant to the provisions of the DDLETB.

Mission Statement

We, at Greenhills Community College, are committed to providing a comprehensive integrated education that will enable each individual to fulfil his potential in a positive, caring, respectful, learning environment where skills and attitudes for life-long learning are developed.

We promote equality, innovation and partnership in the delivery of our services.

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. Regular homework/study is seen by Greenhills Community College as a vital aspect of the learning process when it is properly structured leading to independent learning, study skills and creativity.

We believe it is important because it helps:

- Reinforce the learning in the classroom
- Allows students to take responsibility
- Develops necessary skills of writing, reading, time management and study techniques
- It is a good tool to monitor progress
- Assist in teachers' ongoing assessment of students' work
- Provide feedback on students' progress whilst identifying individual students' strengths and needs

The policy also aims to ensure consistent approaches to the setting and reviewing of homework in Greenhills Community College.

2. Approach to Homework

To help students develop effective study habits and homework skills, the following strategies are recommended:

- Homework and classwork are tailored to accommodate different ability levels.
- Effort and dedication in completing homework are acknowledged.
- Teachers assign suitable homework and allow adequate time for students to note down assignments and ask questions.

- Homework assignments may be assessed, and results tracked to monitor student progress.
- Subject teachers provide support in key study techniques such as writing, research, and organisation.
- Constructive feedback plays a vital role in learning. Teachers can offer feedback through written comments, verbal discussions, peer reviews, and self-assessments.

3. Homework Management

To ensure homework is assigned, reviewed, and recorded effectively, the following guidelines should be followed:

- At the beginning of class, teachers are encouraged to notify students that homework will be assigned, and the details of the assignment will be provided towards the end of the class.
- Homework instructions should be clearly communicated, giving students enough time to write them down and ask questions if needed.
- When possible, students may be given class time to begin their homework, providing an opportunity to clarify any doubts.
- Teachers should offer guidance and support as required, including outlining key criteria for successful homework completion.
- Feedback is essential for student growth and may be provided in various ways, including oral comments, written notes, peer assessments, and self-reflection.
- Teachers should be mindful of the academic calendar, adjusting deadlines when students are engaged in important assessments such as Classroom-Based Assessments (CBAs), Assessment Tasks (ATs), and oral or practical exams. Flexibility may be provided to support student well-being.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

The following individuals play key roles in ensuring that homework is completed on time and meets an acceptable standard:

4.1. Students are responsible for:

- Noting homework assigned by their subject teacher in their journal.
- Completing homework to an appropriate standard and submitting it on time.
- Ensure they understand the homework before leaving the classroom.
- Get a signed note from a parent/guardian if homework is not completed on time. (Please note that this will still count as an incomplete homework)
- Present written homework in a neat and legible manner.
- Have necessary books and equipment to complete homework.

- Understand that homework will vary in nature e.g. Reading, revising, researching, study & preparation for the next day.
- Make sure homework is students own work and not copied from another student.

4.2. Parents/Guardians should review their child's homework journal on a weekly basis to ensure that assignments are being completed and to stay informed of any teacher feedback or notes. They are encouraged to sign the journal each week to confirm their involvement in their child's education and support the school's policies and discuss with teacher/ tutor any problems that arise concerning homework. This process helps ensure:

- ❖ A conducive environment for completing homework.
- ❖ The suggested amount of time is spent on homework tasks.
- ❖ Helps students to manage their times efficiently.
- ❖ Awareness of the assignments given and any teacher comments, both positive and constructive.
- ❖ Ongoing communication with the teacher or class tutor about any issues or concerns related to homework.

4.3. Subject Teachers are responsible for:

- ❖ Implementing the policy.
- ❖ Assigning and reviewing homework and providing constructive feedback.
- ❖ Adapting tasks to meet diverse learning needs. Teachers will collaborate with the AEN coordinator, additional needs teachers, and parents/guardians for students with additional educational needs.
- ❖ To instruct students in homework/study skills.
- ❖ To keep records of homework set, grades and comments.
- ❖ To advise students on good study techniques for their subject.
- ❖ To liaise with class tutor when issues repeatedly arise around the completion of homework by any student.
- ❖ To be aware of homework already given in other subjects during the week to avoid overwhelming the student.

4.4. Class Tutors should monitor students recording of homework in journals and any homework notes received and engage in discussions with students regarding their homework habits when necessary. They will identify students facing difficulties with homework and provide support. They will work with subject and support teachers, especially for students with additional educational needs.

4.5. Year Heads may be informed when a student repeatedly fails to complete homework, especially after all initial steps have been taken in accordance with the behaviour policy.

They may arrange meetings with the student and parents to address the issue and support improved homework completion.

4.6. Additional educational needs staff will collaborate with teachers to offer strategies that help students with additional learning needs effectively manage their homework responsibilities when required.

4.7. The Principal and Deputy Principal will establish structures and procedures for the implementation of the policy and will monitor the implementation of the policy. They will make sanctions available for students who regularly fail to complete homework.

4.8. The Board of Management will approve the policy, consider reports from the principal on the implementation of the policy and ensure that the policy is evaluated and updated from time to time.

5. Time Spent on Homework

The amount of time spent on homework/ independent revision per night will depend on the year group, language barriers and levels of ability. The amount of homework assigned by the teacher will also depend on the subjects in the timetable for each day. Below you will find the minimum students should spend on homework/study each night.

The following specific times are suggested.

1st Year: 1 hour

2nd Year: 1.5 hours

3rd Years: 2 hours

5th Years and 6th years: 2.5-3 hours

Non-completion of Homework: Non completion of homework will result in a note in the student's journal. Two homework notes will result in a detention. Parents may be required to assist in the implementation of a plan to support homework completion if deemed necessary.

Signed:

Date:

Pamela Kaur

20/5/2025

Chairperson: Board of Management

Signed:

Date:

Norin Lannon

20/5/25

Principal: Greenhills Community College