



## Secondary Homework Policy

*In all its policies, Marymount International School Rome seeks to act according to the ethos of the School as rooted in our school Mission and the Mission of the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary 'That all may have life and live it to the full'. Our commitment to this ethos and to being a Catholic school requires that we always strive primarily for diversity, equity, and inclusion within our community and in our interactions with the wider world. We consider these goals moral imperatives that go beyond legal requirements. In addition, the School undertakes a continual process of review to ensure that policies remain both effective and consistent with our ethos.*

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to establish clearly how students, parents, guardians and teachers are committed to extend learning experiences at school in order to reinforce, enhance and develop knowledge learned during school and to promote independent learning.

### 2. Scope

This Policy applies to students, teachers, parents and guardians.

### 3. Policy Statement

Relevant homework is assigned regularly to support students: to reinforce what they learn in class and to enable them to come prepared to participate meaningfully for the next lesson. Homework is also assigned to make students increasingly responsible for organizing their learning materials, as well as managing their time and deadlines. Although the assignment of homework is a policy of the School, students should not spend more than one hour daily in Grade 6 and one hour and a half in Grade 7 and 8 (fifteen minutes per subject)

Homework should be completed autonomously without the help of a tutor or a family member. It is used to provide feedback for the students and from the teacher. Homework needs to be distinguished from projects assigned to be completed at home for which a grade is awarded. Sometimes projects and class assignments need to be completed at home.

The time required for homework will increase incrementally through High School, but it should never compromise the wellbeing of students; this is in line with our Approaches to Teaching and Learning pedagogy.

Middle School students who select the Media Program or a Classical language are expected to dedicate more time to homework in order to meet the course requirements; however, the School recommends that the student spend no more than two hours per day.

The School has introduced a shared calendar via ManageBac in order to track daily homework load.

#### **4. Procedures**

In conjunction with the weekly assemblies on Approaches to Teaching and Learning, students are encouraged and guided on managing time wisely, and on exercising their memory and thinking skills. This is facilitated by their advisor.

Homework is assigned in class and posted on ManageBac by each teacher, who will also indicate the estimated time to complete the homework.

Homework is checked on a regular basis. For Grades 6-10, homework completion is recorded on PowerSchool. The category is weighted 10% and students receive a 1/1 if the homework is complete, and 0/1 if it is not completed. In subjects where there is an end of semester examination, homework counts 7.5% of the final grade where in non-examined subjects is worth 10% of the final grade.

For IB Courses in Grades 11-12, homework is set regularly but is not calculated as part of the final grade.

Students who are ill are exempt from homework when they are absent from school. Upon return to school, students are encouraged to seek guidance on the work they were absent for. It is the student's responsibility to make up for missing work in agreement with the teacher.

#### **5. School Sponsored Activities**

When students are involved in school sponsored activities, (MUN, RSHM Events, Concerts, Musicals) they are exempt from homework, but they are responsible for seeking clarification from the teacher in order to recuperate the work they have missed. (This is recorded on PowerSchool as Exempt.

#### **6. Missing Assignments**

*M* (missing) is recorded on PowerSchool for assignments which are not completed.

Students are required to turn in missing homework on the following day; the *M* on PowerSchool will then become a 1/1.

If the homework is not turned in, the grade becomes a zero. Missing assignments are accepted in the next class or the following, at the discretion of the teacher.

Middle School students who consistently fail to complete homework necessary to be prepared for class, may spend their lunch recess from 12:05-12:35 doing homework in the library.

## **7. How we meet the Policy Objective**

The policy is discussed and reinforced regularly by both teachers and students in the context of ATL Assemblies and Student Council meetings.

*Student Responsibilities:*

- Refer regularly to the strategies you are learning during the ATL Assemblies.
- Use class time wisely and effectively and participate and ask questions if you are unsure about the assignment. Do not leave the classroom uncertain of what the assignment entails.
- Turn off all electronic devices which cause a disturbance to productive and purposeful work. (Mobile phone, iPad, etc.)
- Go to ManageBac and read the assignment carefully.
- Ensure that all necessary resources, such as textbooks, notes, and study guides, are brought home and are easily accessible.
- Remember that you are required to complete all homework assignments in a conscientious manner and submit them by the designated due date. Be proud of your effort.
- Homework is to be completed independently in line with our Academic Honesty Policy.
- Check your schedule and pack your backpack for the following day.
- Plan time for completion of long-term assignments, projects, or oral presentations. Please consult with your teacher regarding meeting deadlines and remember to collaborate with your group if you are involved in a group project.

## **8. Further Information**

Questions regarding the content of this Policy should be directed to the Principal / Headmistress.

## **9. Record of Approval**

This Policy was reviewed by the Secondary Management Team and approved by the Board of Regents. It will be reviewed annually.