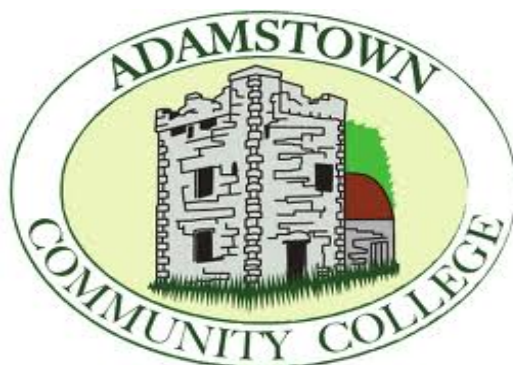


Adamstown Community College



Homework Policy

Mission Statement

Adamstown Community College will promote a happy and caring school environment where pupils are encouraged and supported to reach their full potential.

The emphasis will be placed on quality teaching and learning, positive behaviour and the pursuit of standards of excellence in all areas of college activities.

Our philosophy is based on respect, tolerance and understanding while appreciating the diversity of our changing world.

Adamstown Community College Homework Policy aims to foster an appreciation of the importance of homework as an integral part of the teaching and learning process.

Rationale

Homework is important at Adamstown Community College.

- It enables students to review and practice the skills learned during class
- It leads to improvements in academic performance
- It should be meaningful for the teacher and the student
- It improves student confidence with the learning process
- It encourages students to become independent learners
- It reinforces work learned and prepares the student for the next lesson
- It provides a platform for further learning and develops good study habits
- It is central to assessment for learning and provides feedback to the teacher on student progress
- It builds a link between the home and the school
- It encourages the use of I.T. (google classroom)to support study skills

Principles/Guidelines

The practice at Adamstown Community College is that homework given should be:

- Designed to improve academic performance
- Related to the ability of the student
- Administered at a differentiated level to accommodate the needs of learners of all levels through explanation of terminology, repetition, word recognition, etc...
- Used to generate ideas and give rise to independent research
- Fair
- Realistic
- Consistent
- Recorded by the student in their school journal

What is Homework?

Homework can take many forms, depending on the subject and the topic. The following is a sample list of the various forms homework can take:

- Answering questions in a copy or a workbook
- Practice assignments, new skills or new concepts
- Preparation: collecting information or materials
- Research for a topic or for a project, to be completed over a set time
- Learning information from notes, worksheets or book
- Revision of topics covered
- Writing up missed work
- Finishing work not completed in class
- Reading
- Writing up experiments
- Practical work
- Transferring skills to new situations
- Practicing listening/spoken skills/ practice music
- Essays
- Kahoot
- Google Classroom assignments
- Watching programmes and reporting

Role of Student

Students at Adamstown Community College are expected to:

- Have their journal with them at all times
- Organise their homework journal and keep it in good condition
- Write all homework into the journal

- Organise their time in order to ensure that homework is completed
- Complete homework to the best of their ability
- Present all homework by the deadline
- Ensure that homework and all other materials needed for school are in their school bag
- If a student is absent from the class (for example, sick, at a match or on a trip etc) we encourage students to get their class work and homework from the teacher or students
- Make sure all google classrooms are joined using correct code

Role of Parents/Guardians

Parents/guardians are expected to:

- Check and sign the Journal once a week
- Check vsware regularly
- Take an interest in pupils' progress
- Support the homework policy
- Provide a suitable environment for doing homework
- Ensure that homework is completed
- Provide books and materials where necessary
- Respond to notes from teachers
- Notify teachers where there is a problem regarding homework

Role of Teacher:

The teacher is expected to:

- Highlight the importance of doing homework properly
- Set appropriate homework for each class
- Explain homework clearly
- Outline, write out or display the homework clearly.
- Give students time to record the homework in their journals
- Provide supporting notes and materials where applicable
- Record the homework given
- Check and correct homework
- Record the completed homework
- Reward or sanction students through the merit system on VSware
- Notify parents where there is a problem regarding homework

Good Practice:

Students are encouraged to:

- Have their journal with them at all times
- Keep a copy of their timetable in the journal
- Write all homework into the journal
- Plan their homework in advance
- Establish a routine for doing homework – place and time
- Complete homework as soon as possible
- Present homework by the deadline
- Submit assignments by due date on google classroom

Guidelines for Homework:

Year Time Spent on HW

1st Year 1 – 2 hours

As part of a settling in period for 1st year students at the beginning of the year, they will not be given homework for the first week of term.

2nd Year 2 hours

3rd Year 2.5 – 3 hours

5th / 6th year 3 hours plus revision time

Homework forms part of the continuous assessment of students and may form part of the results students receive for their Autumn Assessment.

Sanctions:

Sanctions for failure to submit homework:

1st no homework Record in journal and work must be redone

2nd no homework Teacher may impose detention at lunchtime or other sanction and work must be redone

3rd no homework A comment should be put on the student's behaviour profile on VShare. A phone call home is recommended.