



**St Michael's**  
**Secondary Phase**  
**Homework Policy**  
**January 2026**

## 1. Purpose

Homework is an essential part of learning and plays a key role in helping students to:

- Consolidate and practise knowledge and skills learned in class
- Develop independent study habits and organisational skills
- Prepare for future learning and assessments
- Build resilience, responsibility, and ambition

Homework should support high-quality classroom teaching and be designed to be purposeful, achievable, and appropriately challenging.

**This policy aims to ensure homework is purposeful, consistent, and supports all students in achieving their full potential.**

## 2. Homework Expectations by Key Stage

### Key Stage 3 (KS3)

To ensure a balanced and manageable approach across the curriculum:

- Core subjects: One homework task should be set each week, with an estimated completion time within 15 – 45 minutes
- Non-core subjects: One homework task should be set each fortnight, with an estimated completion time within 15 – 45 minutes

Core subjects include English, Mathematics, Science and RE.

### Key Stage 4 (KS4)

To support increasing academic demands and exam preparation:

- Core subjects: Two homework tasks should be set each week, with an estimated completion time within 20 – 50 minutes
- Non-core subjects: One homework task should be set each week, with an estimated completion time within 20 – 50 minutes

Homework at KS4 should increasingly develop students' ability to revise, practise exam-style questions, and apply learning independently.

This is in addition to independent revision a student may wish to complete. When it is close to the exam period, teachers will set revision as their homework expectation or requirement to help support workload.

### 3. Setting Homework

Where possible homework will be set on ClassCharts so that students and parents/carers can see the full details. This also allows teachers to:

- Share supporting weblinks, documents, or resources students may need
- Provide clarity on expectations, deadlines, and outcomes
- Ensure homework is accessible and consistent across the school

Teachers should:

- Set homework in advance of the lesson wherever possible
- Clearly inform students during the lesson that homework has been set
- Ensure students record the homework in their planners, including the due date

Homework instructions should include:

- A clear description of the task
- Success criteria or expectations (where appropriate)
- The due date
- Any resources or guidance students may need

### 4. Completion and Submission

Students are expected to:

- Complete homework to the best of their ability
- Meet deadlines and submit work on time
- Seek support from the teacher if they are unsure about the task

Where homework is not completed, the school's behaviour and/or sanctions procedures will be followed to reinforce high expectations and accountability.

### 5. Checking and Feedback

#### Checking Homework

Homework always needs to be checked on the due date. This is essential because it:

- Keeps students accountable
- Reinforces that we value homework and students' effort

- Helps teachers identify misconceptions and next steps

## **Feedback**

Feedback on homework must be meaningful and manageable. It should support learning and next steps, without creating an unsustainable workload for staff.

Feedback may include:

- Self-assessment
- Peer assessment
- Whole class feedback
- Individual verbal feedback
- Teacher marking

Teachers should select the most appropriate method depending on the task and learning intention.

## **6. Supporting Students and Parents/Carers**

Homework information where possible should be visible on **ClassCharts**, allowing parents/carers to:

- Support their child in managing deadlines
- Understand what learning is taking place
- Help students build routines and independence

Students should be encouraged to use ClassCharts and their planners to stay organised and take responsibility for their workload.

## **7. Monitoring and Consistency**

Subject leaders and senior leaders will monitor homework standards to ensure:

- Homework is set in line with this policy
- Quality and expectations remain consistent across year groups and subjects
- Checking and feedback are effective and manageable