



St. Theresa's Catholic High School

Homework Guidelines



Within our school family we are called to nurture our students to encourage their growth and development. At St. Theresa's Catholic High School we recognize the value and importance of homework. These are the homework guidelines that we will strive to follow.

Homework refers to any work completed outside of regular class time, including:

- short tasks that allow students to practice a skill or apply new knowledge that was learned in class
- reading (or viewing) in preparation for in-class learning
- refining summative assignments (such as projects, essays, reports, etc.) that are initiated and developed in class
- studying / preparing for summative tasks (tests, presentations, etc.)

1. Homework involves only tasks that students are ready to complete independently.

This means that homework involves activities that students who are appropriately engaging in classroom learning can complete without assistance. It may be differentiated to meet individual student needs.

2. Homework has a clear purpose, and provides a valid way to achieve that purpose.

This means that homework is a meaningful extension of (or preparation for) learning done in class. It involves activities that are engaging and relevant, with a purpose that is made clear to students.

3. Homework involves tasks that may receive feedback, but will not be evaluated as summative tasks (although it may involve work that supports summative tasks).

This means that homework completion may be monitored as a Learning Skill, but it will not be evaluated for marks that contribute to overall grades. Assignments for evaluation (summative tasks) should be completed mainly in class; however, students may be permitted to continue and refine their work at home, when needed.

4. Homework assignments take into consideration the variety of home/lifestyle situations students may be in and do not unduly disadvantage students who are in situations that inhibit opportunity to do homework.

This means that students who can not complete homework the way other students can for reasons beyond their control (such as limited access to technology, a very long commute, responsibility to care for other family members, etc.) will not be penalized. Teachers and students will work together to create a plan that takes advantage of opportunities to complete homework at school, during times when they are not in class.

5. Homework assignments are reasonable in the amount of time they require of students, who need rest and balance in their activities in order to experience overall wellness.

*This means that students who are appropriately using classroom learning time should regularly have time to participate in other activities besides school/course work (such as athletic, creative, spiritual/reflective, volunteer/community service, or social activities; part-time jobs; etc.). **Whenever possible, homework should be assigned over blocks of time** so that students and families can manage homework completion amid other activities. No homework should be assigned immediately before a holiday that is due immediately following the holiday. Teachers will assist students in establishing priorities and learning how to manage time to complete tasks and achieve goals, in connection with the Learning Skill of Organization.*

Our Mission

Our inclusive Catholic learning community is dedicated to excellence. We give witness to the teachings of Jesus Christ, as we journey in faith and learning, to develop the God-given abilities of each person.

