

# **Ardcoil Rís Homework Policy**

## **Second Years**



Ardcoil Rís  
Edmund Rice Schools Trust School  
North Circular Road  
Limerick

Ardcoil Rís is a Catholic School under the  
Trusteeship of the Edmund Rice

## **Table of Contents**

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Mission Statement</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>School Ethos</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Rationale</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Aims</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Homework Schedule for year groups and subjects</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Second Years</b>	<b>3</b>

## **1. Mission Statement**

Ardcoil Rís aims to promote the spiritual, personal, physical, cultural, aesthetic and academic development of its students. It aims to create a community where students are imbued with Christian values of respect, justice and integrity

## **2. School Ethos**

There has never been any confusion about the aims of Ardcoil Ris. The same mixture of high ideals and practical goals that guided the school when it first opened has continued up to the present day.

Inspired by the vision of Edmund Rice, our school

- Gives priority to education in a living faith whereby students grow to appreciate the life mission of Jesus Christ with a view to being committed to the world as he was
- Has a special concern for the poor and under-privileged
- Is challenged to develop a curriculum which promotes the harmonious growth of the whole person

The quality of the education received at Ardcoil Ris has been, for generations of pupils, a stepping-stone to success in their careers. For over half a century the school has an unrivalled record in the placement of students in university and third level colleges and in careers in the public service, commerce and industry. This success is evidenced by the outstanding achievement of past pupils in the professional and business spheres. The pursuit of excellence is a core objective and the school seeks to maximise the development of each pupil's capabilities in academic and co-curricular areas. While learning is central to all we do, the classroom as only one component of a complex learning culture.

In the classroom active participation as opposed to passive reception is welcomed and encouraged. Pupils are assisted by teachers, tutors and Year heads to carefully organise their private study time. Great care is taken to identify and encourage the direction most suited to each one's personal development. A full time Guidance Counsellor helps to identify each pupil's potential and to advise on further education and career opportunities available to pupils on leaving school. Emphasis on Guidance Counselling is now an integral part of the Junior Programme.

A qualified Learning Support teacher and Resource teacher assist pupils with learning difficulties. Special emphasis is placed on the pupil's ability to express himself orally and to write in a clear and logical manner.

## **3. Rationale:**

- Homework is an integral part of the learning process and this document seeks to assist students, teachers and parents to maximise the benefits of productive homework.
- It is a requirement of the 1998 Education Act that schools "promote the moral, spiritual, social and personal development of the students. The school's mission statement seeks to provide for the spiritual, emotional, academic, sporting and aesthetic development of the student. It is within this context that this policy has been produced.

- Ardscoil Ris seeks to provide a safe and secure environment to maximise learning. We define learning as the academic development and personal growth of student to his full potential. Completion of homework is an integral part of such learning and development.
- The ethos of the school is reflected in the moral, intellectual, spiritual, personal and social development of our students. An effective homework schedule contributes significantly to the students' learning.

#### **4. Aims:**

The aims of the school are follows:

- To maintain the highest standards of teaching and learning within the school environment
- To provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all students; addressing their needs and enabling them to experience both personal and academic success.
- To encourage the students to value one another and to respect the views of other members of their community.
- To develop the students' self-confidence, self-esteem and self-discipline.
- To prepare the students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.
- To respond in a sympathetic and understanding way to the concerns, fears and worries of all students
- To provide opportunities for reflection and discussion enabling students to develop framework for responsible decision-making.

Homework reinforces what has been completed in the classroom and is a bridge to the next lesson. It can be the connection between the abstract and the tangible and therefore provides students with the opportunity to further understand the day's lesson.

As such the aims of this policy are

- To maximise the students' learning potential
- To ensure the students have a balance of homework each night
- To encourage students to organise their time appropriately
- To assist parents as partners in their sons' education
- To assist teachers in organising homework assignments
- To encourage all students to take pride in their work, to meet deadlines, to set realistic goals, thus optimising the opportunity provided by their education at Ardscoil Ris.

#### **5. Homework Schedule for year groups and subjects**

Set out below is the Ardscoil Ris homework schedule for Second Year. It provides details of the content of and the materials required to complete homework in all subject areas. It also suggests the time that should be spent on homework in each subject.

## **6. SECOND YEARS**

### **Art**

- Time: 30 minutes.
- Content: The target will be one sketch a week with particular emphasis on sketching ideas which will be further developed in class. The sketches will be based on themes such as sport or music, which will help the pupil prepare for Junior Certificate project work.
- Materials: Sketch pad will record the pupils' homework.
- Correction: These sketches will be graded each week.

### **Business Studies**

- Time: 20 minutes per class period.
- Content: Written homework is given at the end of most classes, when starting or developing a topic. This may not always be possible but students are expected to study the material covered during class.
- Textbook, workbook, business record books, newspapers.
- Correction: Written homework is checked in class, questioning of material covered takes place regularly. Topic tests are also given and corrected. Revision of a topic in the form of written exercises is also given.

### **English**

- Time: 20-30 minutes.
- Content: Exam type questions are utilised.
- Homework: should reinforce what is done in the classroom and be a bridge to the next day's work. The type of work depends on the topics being covered in the class: short exercises to check comprehension and writing skills; letter and diary writing; imaginative pieces; introduction to exam style questions and answers; revision exercises; essays (which will take longer than usual exercises and will be given for weekend work)
- Correction: Homework is checked in a variety of ways: copies corrected in class; answers read out in class and commented upon; work checked for completion; copies collected, graded and progress recorded. The teacher chooses whichever method is appropriate to the subject matter.

### **French**

- Time: 20-30 minutes.
- Content: Written or aural comprehensions after each class period based on class material, learning of vocabulary, grammar and verbs to be learned as they occur in the chapter, revision to be done at the end of every chapter.
- Materials: Textbook, tape book and 1 copy.
- Correction: Copies both checked and collected regularly and a record of homework kept. Homework is corrected on the board and students are required to do corrections every day into their copy.

### **Gaeilge**

- Time : higher level 25-30 minutes ordinary level 15-20 minutes
- Content: Written and learning work to be given each night e.g. new sentences, letters, essays, based on new vocabulary. Comprehension should also be assigned on a

regular basis. Aural work to be assigned on a weekly basis in tandem with work done in class

- Materials: Book and copy.

### **Geography**

- Time: 20 minutes.
- Content: written homework, end of chapter questions, revision of class work, practicing of diagrams, maps and photographs, taking note of news reports on topical issues covered in class.
- Materials: textbook, workbook, notebook, copy, worksheets, maps, photographs, newspaper articles.
- Correction: Homework to be corrected each day in class. Written and verbal questioning. Workbook and notes copy to be checked intermittently in class.

### **German**

- Time: 20 minutes per class period.
- Content: Students are assigned written and learning comprehension exercises after each class period based on class material.
- Content: Homework exercises assigned from text books and work book. Homework emphasises vocabulary building, writing skills, answering questions on comprehensions. Tape work usually done twice per week. Key words/phrases are to be learnt.
- Materials: Books and copy.

### **History**

- Time: 15-20 minutes per class period.
- Materials: Textbook, books outside of textbook, copybook, notes-copy, handouts and worksheets, revision books and DVDs.

### **Mathematics**

- Time: 30/40 minutes.
- Content: Daily homework exercises from the textbook and junior certificate exam papers. Study is to be encouraged throughout the year with lots of guided revision used to complement daily homework exercises.
- Correction: is done daily to reinforce the concepts previously covered and to identify any remaining difficulties and misconceptions. Students' homework copybooks will be checked on a regular basis in class.

### **Music**

- Time: 25-35 minutes.
- Content: Homework is explained and distributed with workbook assignment related to classroom topic completed, homework Exercise/ Practical Activity/Exam Question: To reinforce new material with clear marking schemes for exam questions, suitable plan in preparation for examinations, recorder practice.
- Materials: workbook and recorder.
- Correction: At beginning of each lesson.

**Science**

- Time: 15-20 minutes.
- Content: Relevant mandatory experiment write-ups in student report book. Chapter exercises into homework copies. Learning work on new concepts, definitions.

**Technical Graphics**

- Time: 40 minutes homework.
- Content: Honours exam question at end of each topic, revision for exams.
- Materials: workbook.

Sanctions for non completion of homework may include

- Directive to complete
- Verbal warning
- Note in journal
- Telephone call to parent(s)/guardian(s)
- Complaint slip
- Referral to Disciplinary Committee
- Detention
- Suspension/Exclusion