



Homework Policy

Introduction

Homework is an integral link between school and home. Parents can monitor their child's progress through continual reference to homework diaries and liaison with teachers. Parents play a vital role in listening to and engaging with their child's homework.

Rationale

- ◆ Further strengthening of home-school links.
- ◆ Reinforcing the learning experienced by the child during the school day.
- ◆ Ensuring clarity as to the recommended time to be spent on homework.

Aims and Objectives

- ◆ To consolidate learning through reinforcement of class work.
- ◆ To enable children to develop a sense of responsibility and independence.
- ◆ To enhance self-esteem through the provision of a work menu that is achievable.
- ◆ To foster self-discipline and study skills.
- ◆ To promote consistency and a uniform approach to homework across all classes.
- ◆ To develop links between school and home.
- ◆ Self-assessment

Resources

- ◆ Homework diary
- ◆ Whiteboard

- ◆ Work sheets, Texts Books, folders, copies etc.
- ◆ I.T.- World Book-Scoilnet
- ◆ Active
- ◆ Environmental

Policy Content

It is school policy to assign appropriate class-related levels of homework as an important reinforcement in the learning process. Good habits are fostered, independent learning is promoted, self-discipline and self-assessment is developed. Homework is normally given at the end of the school day.

The following table advises appropriate times that homework might take and subject matter homework involves.

• Junior Infants:	Up to 15 minutes
• Senior infants:	up to 15 minutes
• First Class:	up to 20 minutes
• Second Class:	up to 20 minutes
• Third Class:	Up to 30 minutes.
• Fourth Class:	Up to 45 minutes
• Fifth Class:	Up to 45 minutes
• Sixth Class:	Up to 45 minutes

Note: Some subjects such as English, Irish, may have more emphasis on oral work. Active homework is promoted and encouraged. Homework is mostly based on class-related work. It attempts to keep a balance between reading, writing and learning. Time spent in reading and learning is as important as written work. The different levels of the pupils are taken into account when homework is assigned.

- Homework is given from Mondays to Thursdays and generally is not given at the weekends unless exceptional work like projects is expected.
- Homework is not linked to behaviour but occasionally children are rewarded with reduced homework if they have worked and behaved well.
- Reading is routinely given and should be a priority.
- If homework cannot be completed on a given night, a written notice should be forwarded to the teacher.

- Parents/Guardians should supervise and check homework nightly and only sign homework notebook when work is completed satisfactorily (Classes 1– 6)
- Junior infants and Senior Infants worksheets should be signed.

How Parents can help

The table outlining rough time guidelines only operates successfully when children are working in a suitable environment.

- Remove distraction – TV, radios, mobile phone etc.
- Help child overcome difficulties through explanation.
- Do not do your child’s homework.
- Send a note in homework diary (or other) if a problem arises.
- Check and sign homework diary/journal.
- Discourage morning homework.
- Shared reading should be an enjoyable experience between parent and child. If it is not enjoyable, shared reading should not be done.
- Communicate any concerns regarding homework which occur on a regular basis, with the class teacher.

Evaluation.

In class corrections.

Checking homework diaries

Parent-Teacher meetings

Class Tests

Pupil profiling

Teacher observation

Feedback

Self-Assessment

Peer Assessment

Homework and holidays

It is school policy not to allocate or prepare homework for children who are on holiday during school time. We do not assign work for children for their holidays, nor set catch up work for them on their return. It is our policy to discourage pupils from taking holidays during term time. If a child is absent for twenty or more days in the school year, we are obliged to report the absence to TUSLA, Child and Family Agency. Parents/Guardians of children who are sick for an extended period/hospitalized should talk with the class teacher.

Ratification

This policy was ratified by the BOM in October 2018

Next Review October 2020