



## HOMEWORK POLICY 2017

### Definition

Homework is presented by the teacher as an active learning challenge, to be undertaken by children under the supervision/guidance of parent/guardian.

### Homework

Homework is an integral part of a pupil's education and should become a routine part of a child's life.

Homework is a useful means of:-

- (a) *benefiting pupil learning*
- (b) *reinforcing the learning done in school*
- (c) *encouraging pupils to work independently and take responsibility for their assignments*
- (d) *developing study skills which will benefit pupils when they enter post-primary education*
- (e) *strengthening links between home and school*

The teaching staff asks that parents act in the best interests of their children by ensuring that homework is completed fully and neatly as required by the class teacher.

Parents **must** sign their son's homework journal each night to indicate that they are satisfied with the work completed.

If parents have a particular problem in relation to homework, they should make an appointment with the class teacher to discuss the relevant matter.

### Homework - Amount and Time

The amount of homework a pupil has is determined firstly by the class level and this defines the average time needed. Homework will be given four nights a week (Monday-Thursday inclusive). The teaching staff suggests the following as to the amount of time spent on homework.

<i>Junior Infants / Senior Infants</i>	<i>– 10 to 20 minutes</i>
<i>1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> class</i>	<i>- 20 to 30 minutes</i>
<i>3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> class</i>	<i>- 40 to 45 minutes</i>
<i>5<sup>th</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> class</i>	<i>- 45 to 60 minutes</i>

Some children will need less than the above times to complete their homework. If a child spends longer than the recommended time, the parent should contact the teacher to discuss the issue and seek a resolution.

### Good-Practice Guidelines

Parents need to show an interest in their son's homework. They also need to keep a check on time spent versus performance. Some children can spend long periods of time at homework and have very little done at the end. Perhaps, there may be need for regular checking while a child is doing homework to make sure that the work is being done and concentration maintained. Parents are advised to check with the school if their child is spending a very long time on homework.

1. *Establish a routine of where and when homework is done*
2. *A pupil should attempt to do homework on his own before engaging further help.*

3. *A pupil should begin homework with the easiest task.*
4. *Set aside a quiet space for homework . Don't do homework while watching T.V.*
5. *Listen to your son read regularly and sign the appropriate sheet.*
6. *Parents should affirm their child's efforts by signing his Homework Diary.*

### **Homework - Failure to do Homework**

It is parent's responsibility to ensure that all homework is completed satisfactorily. Notes from parents are required in the event of a pupil not having completed his homework.

### **Teacher Guidelines**

If a pupil fails to do homework and has no note, teachers should:-

- (i) *Put a note in the homework journal to inform the parents.*
- (ii) *If after 2 nights the journal is not signed, inform the parents by phone call.*
- (iii) *Meet with parents if necessary.*
- (iv) *If there is no improvement, the case should be referred to the school Board of Discipline / Principal.*

### **Communication**

A copy of this policy has been given to each teacher and is available for parents to view in the school.

### **Review**

This policy was reviewed in 2011 and 2013. It will be reviewed again as required in the future.

### **Ratification**

This policy was originally ratified by the Board of Management in 2004, 2013,2015 and again in 2017.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairperson, Board of Management)

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_