



Homework Policy

Introductory statement

This policy was formulated by a sub committee in consultation with pupils, parents and whole staff.

Rationale

- To define roles and responsibilities child/teacher/parent.
- To support teachers.
- For consistency and uniformity through the school.
- To fulfil legal requirements.
- As part of the School Plan
- To assist in implementation of the revised curriculum.

Relationship to the characteristic spirit of the school

Shared understanding through collaboration with all parents reflects the ethos of Scoil an Linbh Iosa and contributes to improved learning for all.

Aims of the policy

- To create and affirm an awareness of the value of homework amongst all the partners.
- To inform all partners of their roles/responsibilities.
- To set clear guidelines re: content, time.
- To provide for consistency/continuity .
- To provide avenues for these with a vested interest in the School to participate in policy making.
- To develop good homework practices throughout the School.

The Purpose of setting homework

- To reinforce learning and involve parents.
- To foster independence and good work ethic in the children.
- To provide a means of communication between home and school which provides an opportunity for each to support the other.



The Role/Responsibilities of the Teacher:

With regard to homework, teachers should:

- Be consistent in their approach to the amount of homework given, the time at which it is given and the format taken.
- Set homework on Mondays to Thursdays only - senior classes, middle, senior classes - project work may be done at the weekends.
- In as far as possible, correct homework on the day following its been done.
- Present homework clearly and make allowance for children with difficulty in taking down the assignments.
- Inform parents of concerns as problems arise.
- Allow for differentiation when assigning homework.
- Ensure that homework is done at home and not in school.
- Utilise the exercise as and opportunity to develop good communication between home and school.

The role of Responsibilities of Parents/Guardians:

- To encourage children to be independent in completing homework assignments.
- To time and sign off on homework nightly: this should be and honest account of the time your child is on task: signing off should not happen until the homework is inspected by parent/guardian.
- To organise a quiet place where homework can be done at the same time everyday.
- To insist that acceptable levels of presentation are maintained.
- To write comments in the journal regularly.
- To junior classes; to do the reading/words with the child.



The Role of the Child:

In Junior Classes

- To bring home/back reading folder.
- To listen to story with parent.
- To read page/words given.
- To write down the homework.
- To do in full to best of child's ability.

In Middle/Senior Classes

- To ensure that journal is signed and that he/she has timed the work.
- To inform teacher/parent of difficulties.
- To have everything that is needed at home/school.

What constitutes homework

- Written work from any curricular area.
- Reading-text, library, newspaper.....
- Learning off poetry.
- Drill on tables/grammar.
- Drawing.
- Sourcing information.
- Collecting pictures, photographs, newspaper cuttings.
- Project work....
- Listening to/watching t.v./radio programmes and reporting back...
- Discussion with parents.
- Listening to story read by parent/guardian.
- Follow up work on word recognition/reading.
- Bring in objects.

**Time Guidelines:**

Junior & Senior Infants: up to 10 minutes

1st and 2nd classes: up to 20 minutes

3rd and 4th classes: 30 - 45 minutes

5th and 6th classes: no more than 1 hr 15 minutes

How will parents/guardian be informed of their roles/responsibilities:

- Junior infants: meeting in September
- Other classes: leaflet for each class
- Homework journal
- P/T meetings
- Guest speakers

How will policy be assessed:

- Feedback from parents/teachers/children
- Discussion at staff meetings
- Feedback through PTA.

Time frame for Review

- Yearly

Absenteeism and Homework:

- Homework is follow through on work done during the school day with the children who are in school.
- Suggest children read and are read to if absent from school.