



HOMEWORK POLICY

Aims:

- To consolidate work being done at school
- To keep parents in touch and involved in their children's work
- To develop and encourage the habit of independent study

Guidelines for Teachers:

- Homework should be an integral part of the subject being taught and given in order to consolidate work done – not as an exercise in isolation
- Homework should never be given unless the teacher has thoroughly prepared and explained what is to be done.
- Homework must be consistent – a small amount and given in such a way as to form a pattern for the children so that they are more likely to remember it.
- Teachers will check that homework is being done and will give extra help where difficulties occur.
- In the event of a parent not wishing that their child would participate in homework activities, a letter must be forwarded to the school expressing this wish and must be kept on school files.

Guidelines for Parents:

Parents are encouraged to:

- Establish a set routine and time for the child to do his/her homework, in a quiet place free from distractions
- Supervise children's homework, checking and signing it on completion
- Help and encourage the child but not to do the homework for him/her
- Forward a note to the teacher if homework has not been completed due to unforeseen circumstances.

Shared reading is not homework in the regular sense and it is simply meant to be an enjoyable exercise between parent and child.

Time:

Allotted time that teachers expect the average child in each class to spend at homework:

15 minutes for 1st Class
30 minutes for 2nd Class
45 minutes for 3rd Class
60 minutes for 4th Class
75 minutes for 5th Class
90 minutes for 6th Class

This may be increased by 15 minutes for grades 1 to 3 and by 30 minutes for grades 4 to 6 to do corrections, finish off incomplete work and/or additional work.

Homework to be signed by parents every night.

Homework is given from Monday to Thursday. Normally there is no homework at weekends; however, children in middle and senior classes may sometimes be required to work independently on projects at weekends.

Special consideration will be given to pupils who are experiencing difficulties regarding schoolwork.



Parents will be informed by way of the school journal when any part of the school/homework is not of a sufficiently high standard.

If school/homework continues to be a cause for concern then the parents and teacher will meet to discuss all issues regarding the pupils work. The parents in conjunction with the class teacher will then draw up a plan to monitor the pupil's progress over the following few weeks.

If school/homework still continues to be a cause for concern and/or if the parent/teacher feels that s/he is receiving very little support from the parent/teacher then the parent/teacher will be invited to discuss the situation with the principal.

Putting a child to do homework at the window during lunch break is an inappropriate sanction for homework not done.

No child should get double homework or extra work in excess of time allocation for his/her class.

Children with special needs or attending Resource Teacher should get due consideration from class teacher when assigning homework and may necessitate a modified homework/schoolwork schedule.

This policy will be referred to regularly to check that it is being consistently implemented by all staff.

Policy will be reviewed by staff annually.