

Homework Policy

Introductory Statement.

This policy was developed by the Principal and Deputy Principal in consultation with the teachers in January 2014.

Rationale

- *To promote positive home/school communication.*
- *To maximise the benefit of homework to the child's learning.*
- *The policy is necessary to clarify for parents and teachers our approach to homework.*

Relationship to characteristic spirit of the school

- *Scoil Bhríde seeks to enable each child to develop his/her potential. Homework consolidates what is being learned in school and creates a link between home and school.*

Aims

- *To develop skills and self discipline that will be of benefit to children in order to enhance learning.*
- *To reinforce work done in class – homework allows for revision and practice.*
- *To develop study skills and to assist in establishing an appropriate routine for children in doing their homework.*
- *To promote consistency and a similar approach to homework across all classes.*
- *To encourage children to become independent learners and to revise/reinforce/finish work that has begun in school.*
- *To strengthen links and communication between home and school.*

Guidelines

- All classes will be assigned homework from Monday to Thursday inclusive. Junior Infant classes will be assigned homework from the beginning of November following the first mid-term break.
- Junior and Senior Infants have a homework folder.
- In general, homework will be assigned by the Class Teacher.
- Homework may be differentiated if required in consultation with the Special Education Teacher.
- In general, children will be assigned oral, reading and written homework.
- Homework assigned at Senior Level will include projects, research and hands-on activities.
- Homework is considered as reinforcement of work done in class.
- Homework will be explained to children in advance by the class teacher.
- In the event of special occasions, the Principal may decide to give a night off homework.
- Occasionally, a homework pass may be given by the Class Teacher as part of an agreed behaviour management strategy.
- Additional homework will not be used as a sanction for misbehaviour.

- The following time frame for homework is recommended:-
 - Junior and Senior Infants - 10/15 minutes
 - First and Second Classes - 20/30 minutes
 - Third and Fourth Classes - 30/40 minutes
 - Fifth and Sixth Classes - 40/60 minutes

Homework journal:

- All classes will have a homework journal or homework folder.
- The school strongly recommends that parents sign the homework journal on completion of homework.

Checking homework:

- Each Class Teacher will put a system in place for checking homework.
- Children will be encouraged to present their homework according to the standard expected in the classroom.
- Parents will be informed if children consistently fail to produce homework.

Students:

- Students are expected to take responsibility for transcribing homework details.
- If a student has a difficulty completing homework, he/she is encouraged to inform the class teacher.

Parents/Guardians:

- A parent from the Junior, Middle and Senior part of the school will be randomly selected as part of the consultation process when devising the homework policy.
- Agreed procedures in relation to homework will be posted on the school website.
- Good practice for approaches to homework will be posted on the school website.

Success Criteria

- Feedback from teachers, students and parents (at Parent/Teacher meetings).
- Satisfactory homework exercises and assignments submitted by students.

Roles and Responsibility

- The Class Teacher has a responsibility to assign homework.
- The Student has a responsibility to transcribe the homework details at school and complete the assignments at home.
- The Parent/Guardian has a responsibility supervise the completion of homework.
- The in-school management team has a responsibility to review the homework policy.
- The Board of Management of Scoil Bhríde has a responsibility to ratify the policy

APPENDIX A

Implementation Date

This policy was adopted by the Board of Management on _____ and takes immediate effect.

Timetable for Review

The homework policy and its implementation will be reviewed by the Board of Management no later than January 2017.

Ratification & Communication

The homework policy will be communicated to members of the school community via the school website.

Signed: _____

Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: _____

Principal

Date: _____