



*"Great oaks from little acorns grow"*

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## Homework Policy

### Introductory Statement and Rationale.

The purpose of our homework policy is to provide clarity to the whole school community regarding the purpose of homework and the expectations at each class level.

Homework fosters independence, self-reliance, self-esteem, co-operation, responsibility and life-long learning. It is an essential part of primary education as it re-enforces what children learn in school. It provides a link between teacher and parent and encourages parental involvement in their child's education.

In general, homework is meant to be achievable by a child working on his/her own to the best of his/her ability. However, there are also times when homework will require a parent to "work with" their child to complete a task. It is normally prepared by the teacher in class. It can be used to practice what is done in school or can be designed to challenge children's ability and provide opportunities for creativity.

### How often is homework given?

Homework is given on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Sometimes at the discretion of the class teacher or the principal, children may be given 'homework off' as a treat or as an acknowledgment of some special occasion.

### Homework Content

Usually, homework contains a balance between reading tasks, learning tasks and written tasks. This balance is not always possible and can vary considerably from day to day. However, it should be noted that homework time devoted to reading and learning is as important as written work. Homework will regularly contain reading, spellings, tables, written work, pieces to be 'learned by heart', drawing/colouring, collecting information/items and finishing work started in class. Parents play an important role in listening to reading and items to be learned, ensuring this work is done well.

Homework will be corrected in a timely manner. Various methods of correcting are used (e.g. teacher correction, whole class, paired corrections, class discussion) with appropriate feedback provided.

### Reading

Children will have reading each night (Monday to Thursday) as part of their homework. This will take the form of either a class level text, individual ability-based text or both. Reading is given in both English and Irish from first class.

### Duration of Homework

The following are guidelines for time spent at homework. Different children will complete the same homework in different lengths of time. Time spent will vary from day to day and also from the beginning to

For example, due to family commitments or involvement in a special occasion. In situations like this, parents should write a note in the homework diary and their child will be excused from homework. When homework is not done regularly the teacher will contact the parent/guardian, initially via the pupil's homework journal to try to resolve the situation. If the situation continues, then the matter is brought to the attention of the principal who will contact the parent/guardian and arrange a meeting to discuss how the matter can be resolved.

Please note that if homework is incomplete and there is no explanation given by parents – no note in diary or email, pupils will be asked to complete their homework, in school during a break.

**Children on holidays or outside the country when school is open.**

We ask parents to respect the integrity of the school calendar by not planning holidays when the school is open. No schoolwork will be given to children going abroad for holidays during term time.

Children should **not** use the internet for any homework without parental supervision.

**This policy was updated on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December 2025.**

*Pat Corran.*

*Karen Hennessey 16/12/25*