

Scoil na Maighdine Mhuire

Home work policy

Introductory statement:

This policy was devised as part of a review of the existing policy. Board of Management, staff, parents and pupils were involved in drafting the revised policy.

Aims:

The aims of this policy are:

- to facilitate the consolidation of work which is done in school,
- to maximise parental/guardian involvement and information regarding their children's progress and
- to facilitate the development of independent learning among pupils.

Guidelines for teachers:

- Homework should be an integral part of the subject being taught and given in order to consolidate work done rather than be an exercise in isolation
- Homework should be prepared and explained in advance
- Homework should be consistent and regular forming an expected pattern
- Homework will be corrected and extra help or guidance given where difficulties occur
- Where, on occasion, peer correction is employed by the teacher, the teacher will check copies, notebooks etc for accuracy of correction
- In the event of homework not being completed, the homework journal will be used to communicate with parents

Guidelines for parents:

Parents are encouraged to:

- Establish a set routine and time for the child/children to do homework, in a quiet place free from distractions e.g. television, radio, games consoles etc.
- Supervise children's homework, while encouraging independent study (where appropriate)
- Help and encourage the child, but not to do the actual homework for the child
- Ensure that all homework is completed
- Send a note to the teacher where homework has not been completed due to unforeseen circumstances.
- In the event of a parent not wishing that their child participate in a homework activity, a letter must be forwarded to the school expressing this wish. This letter will be retained in school files.
- Check that homework completed at 'Homework Club' is in fact complete

- Note that independent reading is not homework per se. It is an enjoyable activity in itself which parents should seek to foster as a lifelong activity.

Time:

The following are suggested guideline times for the completion of homework in each class.

Individual children may take longer or shorter to complete homework.

Junior Infants: 10-15 minutes

Senior Infants: 15-20 minutes

First and Second class: 20- 30 minutes

Third and Fourth class: 30-45 minutes

Fifth class: 45-60 minutes

Sixth class: 1 hour – 1 hour 30 minutes (max)

Homework is given from Monday to Thursday, inclusive. Normally there is no homework given at weekends. However, children in middle and senior classes may be required to work on projects at weekends occasionally.

Review:

This policy will be referred to regularly to ensure that it is implemented by all parties. Policy will be reviewed by staff annually or as legislation necessitates.

Reviewed March 2014

Ratified by the Board of Management on _____