

St Daigh's N S Inniskeen Homework Policy

We believe that homework is a useful extension of school work. It reinforces and consolidates what is done in class and gives practice on new concepts. It is a type of discipline and helps formulate the good habit of planning and organising independent study. It can bring to light difficulties that might otherwise go unnoticed. It helps the learning process and develops the rote memory. It gives parents/guardians an opportunity to get involved in their children's school work.

- Homework every evening except Friday, provided that the pupils have worked well during the previous week.
- Both oral and written work may be given.
- Homework given to pupils should be work which they are deemed capable of doing
- Homework is written on the interactive whiteboard or on the white board in the junior and senior classes daily. In senior classes homework may be dictated. Teachers may also use a pre-printed homework list outlining the homework to be completed on a daily/ weekly/fortnightly basis.
- It is the policy of St Daigh's N S that pupils from the senior classes do both English and Irish reading every night even though it is not necessarily written down in the child's journal each day. We feel that reading is a skill that needs lots of practice to help it develop. In the junior classes we recommend that a parent/guardian listen to reading at night and/or ask the child questions to check their understanding of, or comprehension of, what is being read.
- In the event of a pupil not having homework completed on the night, parents/guardians are expected to write a note in the journal explaining reason for same. If homework is consistently being left unfinished, parents/guardians and the Principal will co-operate in sorting out the difficulties.
- Parents/guardians are asked to sign their child's homework journal when homework is completed. Parents/guardians may also be asked to sign workbooks/copies.
- Pupils are responsible for making sure they bring home the books needed daily. Pupils are allowed to leave books they don't need in their school boxes. This is to cut down on weight of school bags. In the event of a child forgetting a book or other homework item, it may be possible for them to make contact with a friend in the class who may be in a position to electronically send/screen shoot the relevant work to them.
- Homework should be done at a regular time so that each pupil will be familiar with his/her own daily routine. ***It should never be done in a room where the T.V. is on or where electronic devices are a distraction.***
- Teachers are regularly assessing how pupils are coping with homework. While homework is an important part of school-life, it is by no means the most important. It is just one section of a teacher's busy daily schedule. It would be impossible and impractical for a teacher to attempt to correct all work. However, spot checks are done and ongoing assessment of all pupils' work is constantly in progress. Parents/guardians are asked to note that in creative writing assessments, all mistakes may not be corrected with the teacher's pen. Attention is drawn to those felt to be of most importance. In setting various tasks the class teacher has particular goals in mind e.g. putting emphasis on sentence construction in one assignment and emphasis on content of a story in another. The building of children's self-esteem is always of vital importance in all feedback given to pupils.

- Time needed by pupils to complete homework should not take more than:
Junior & Senior Infants 10 to 15 minutes

1st & 2nd classes 20 to 30 minutes

3rd & 4th classes 30 to 40 minutes

5th & 6th classes 45 minutes to 1 hour

- As each child reaches development stages at different times, the time spent doing homework will vary from child to child. If a child is experiencing difficulty with homework this should be brought to the attention of the child's teacher.
- It has been found very beneficial for parents/guardians to record in the homework journal the length of time taken to complete the homework.
- The amount of homework if any, given during the summer term will be at the discretion of the class teacher.
- Teachers should discuss with each other the volume of homework to be given and the time expected to be spent on it.
- In respect of the quality of homework, in terms of neatness and presentation, parents/guardians should not approve careless, untidy homework by signing it off in the journal.
- If homework is requested by parents/guardians for children who are absent for whatever reason, every effort will be made to meet their request. Teachers would be appreciative if some notice is given in respect of a homework request.
- In respect of homework and school work, the Principal in consultation with the class teacher will make the necessary arrangements regarding pupils who miss long periods because of a serious illness.
- As with all school issues, parents/guardians are asked to communicate with the class teacher if they have any concerns. If children see that homework is part of a partnership involving pupil, teacher and parents/guardians, they will be more likely to participate fully.

- **Roles and Responsibilities:**


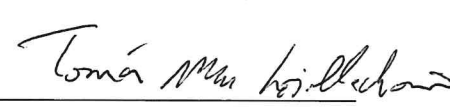
The school staff, under the direction of the Principal, will implement and monitor this policy.

Review Timetable

This policy will be reviewed in 2 years' time and amended as necessary by means of a whole school collaborative process.

Ratification & Communication

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management on 20th October 2021.

20/10/2021