



## SCOIL NAOMH TREASA

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# HOMEWORK POLICY

This policy has been formulated by Scoil Naomh Treasa National School and is guided by feedback from staff, pupils and parents.

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### **1. Introduction**

Homework provides the children with the opportunity of revisiting learning experiences encountered during the school day and of practising the skills and concepts associated with those learning experiences. In the senior classes some homework is designed to challenge the children's ability and provide opportunities for creativity. The children are expected to do their homework to the best of their ability – no more, no less.

### **2. Aims**

- To consolidate work already undertaken in school-it allows for revision and practice. However, at times, homework may be more challenging and provide opportunities for creativity.
- To encourage children to become more independent learners and to revise, reinforce, finish work that has begun in school.
- To develop skills and self-discipline that will be of benefit to children in order to enhance learning.
- To develop study skills and to assist in establishing an appropriate routine for children doing their homework.
- To develop a work ethic among pupils and assist in the development of concentration skills.

- Homework is intended to be achievable by the pupil and is normally prepared by the class teacher. Pupils are expected to do their homework to the best of their ability at all times.
- Homework also allows parents become aware of the work that is being done in school. It allows parents to be informed and involved in their children's school work.

### **3. Guidelines for Teachers**

The amount of recommended homework time varies from class to class. The following times are guidelines. Some children may complete their homework in less time. However, if a child is taking more than the guideline time on a regular basis, parents/guardians should consult with the class teacher.

Junior infants: 10-15 minutes

Senior infants: 15-20 minutes

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Class: 20-30 minutes

3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Class: 30-45 minutes

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Class: 45-60 minutes

- All assigned homework should be written in the child's journal or given on a homework sheet (Infants).
- Homework, both written and oral, should be given in reasonable quantities on a regular basis and parents are requested to check and see that it is neatly presented and fully completed.
- Should a child regularly fail to do his/her homework, the class teacher will bring the matter to the parents/guardians and principal's attention.
- Homework is assigned Monday to Thursday. However, pupils may be asked to complete unfinished work at weekends and occasionally children in the middle and senior classes may be required to work independently on projects at weekends.
- The nature of homework assigned will inevitably change during such times as Book Week, Christmas, Communion or Confirmation time.
- Occasionally and at the teacher's discretion the children may be given a night off homework, for example, birthdays, special days, homework passes etc.
- It is expected that all pupils will complete homework. Differentiated homework may be assigned to any student based on circumstances and where deemed appropriate by the class or support teacher.
- Tables and spelling will be given nightly from first to sixth class.

- Homework given will be corrected and monitored regularly by the class teacher in so far as it is possible. Occasionally homework may be self-corrected and, in certain circumstances, peer corrected by another pupil.
- Homework missed due to illness does not normally have to be completed

### **Tables**

- All classes from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> revise tables each night as part of oral/mental maths.
- Regular tables' tests will be carried out.
- Look for speed in response to tables in 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> class.

### **Spellings**

- Spellings are part of nightly homework from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class.
- Irish spellings are part of nightly homework from 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> class.
- English and Irish spellings are tested weekly.

## **4. Guidelines for Parents**

- Set aside a quiet, regular time for homework. Minimise distractions by ensuring that televisions, laptops, mobile phones and radios are not part of the homework routine, unless your child has been asked to do some online research as part of their homework.
- Make sure that homework is completed as early after school as possible.
- Encourage your child to keep their copies neat and tidy and to complete their work to the best of their ability, using best handwriting.
- As your child gets older he/she will work more independently, but you should be available for assistance with problems.
- Try not to get irritated with your child. Frustration will only lead to conflict and have a negative effect.
- If your child has persistent problems with homework, let the teacher know by sending a note in your child's journal or schedule a meeting.
- If your child is unable to complete work for any reason, make sure you tell the teacher or send a note in their journal.
- If you find that homework is taking longer than the recommended time on a regular basis, let the teacher know.
- Please sign your child's homework journal or sheet daily.

## **5. Responsibilities**

- It is up to the individual class teacher and the parents/guardians to ensure that homework is completed to a satisfactory standard. As homework is compulsory, a

pupil who presents without homework may be liable to sanction, at the discretion of the class teacher, and his/her parents will be notified.

## 6. Possible Sanctions

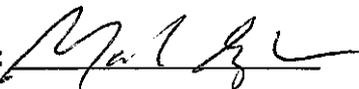
- Reminder note of missed homework to be signed by parent/guardian
- Missed homework to be completed over the weekend.
- Notification of missed homework on a regular basis to the principal.

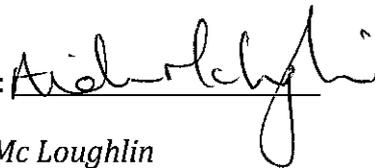
## 7. Success Criteria

- We receive positive feedback from parents in relation to our homework policy.
- We receive positive feedback from staff in relation to homework being satisfactorily completed by children.
- That all children become aware of what is expected of them and take responsibility for their own homework.

## 8. Ratification and Review of Policy

This Homework Policy was adopted by the Board of Management on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

**Chairperson of BOM:** Signed:  Date: 15/2/22  
*Fr Mark English*

**Principal:** Signed:  Date: 15/2/22  
*Aidan Mc Loughlin*