



SCOIL BHRÍDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Homework Policy

Updated January 2023

The Board of Management of Scoil Bhríde PS recognises homework is an integral link in the chain of communication between school and home. Parents can monitor the progress of their children through continual reference to homework diaries and liaison with teachers.

Aims

In general, the broad aims of this homework policy are to:

- promote the use of homework to consolidate learning and work being done at school
- promote consistency and a uniform approach to homework across all teachers and class levels
- keep parents in touch and involved in their child's / children's education
- develop and encourage the habit of independent study
- enable children to develop a sense of responsibility and independence
- enhance self-esteem through the provision of a work menu that is doable
- further develop links between home and school

Guidelines for Teachers

- Homework should be an integral part of the subject being taught and given in order to consolidate work done – not as an exercise in isolation
- Homework should never be given unless the teacher has thoroughly prepared and explained what is to be done.
- Homework must be consistent – a small amount and given in such a way as to form a pattern for the children so that they are more likely to remember it.
- Teachers will check that homework is being done and will give extra help where difficulties occur. Teachers will also differentiate homework as appropriate for pupils with additional needs.
- Allotted time that teachers are to expect the average child in each class to spend at homework
 - Sonas/Infants 10 – 15 minutes
 - 1st & 2nd Class 20 – 30 minutes
 - 3rd & 4th Class 30 – 40 minutes
 - 5th & 6th Class 40 – 60 minutes
- Where a pupil receives homework from their SET teacher, the class teacher and SET will collaborate in relation to the nature and type of homework the child is to receive. Homework should not exceed the times indicated above.
- Homework for pupils in Sonas is at the discretion of the class teacher in collaboration with parents

- Homework is given from Monday to Thursday. Normally there is no homework at weekends.
- Homework is communicated to parents via Google Classroom.

Expectations of Pupils

It is expected that pupils will:

- Return their homework on time
- Complete and present their homework to the best of their ability
- Appreciate that study tasks and learning spellings and tables are as important as written tasks.
- bring a note to school explaining why a task is incomplete, if homework has not been completed.

Sanctions

If a child has not completed all of their homework, a note should be provided by their parent, otherwise sanctions will apply. When implementing this policy, there must be leeway. A teacher will always use his/her discretion when implementing a sanction, taking due regard for issues surrounding the matter, the regularity of such an occurrence etc.

In line with the school's code of behaviour, a yellow card may be issued when homework is not completed. If this occurs on multiple occasions a higher sanction such as an orange card may be issued.

Guidelines for Parents

The school encourages the active involvement of parents in enabling their child to take responsibility and work independently. Parents are encouraged to:

- Establish a set routine and time for your child to do his/her homework (please see below)
- Supervise children's homework, checking the homework when it is completed.
- Try to allow your child to work independently as they should be able to complete most of their homework with minimal support.
- Forward a note to the teacher if homework has not been completed due to unforeseen circumstances.
- Remember that time devoted to reading and learning is as important as written work.
- Please let your child's class teacher know if homework needs to be differentiated.

Creating the Homework Habit

Family situations, each one unique, undoubtedly influence a child's approach to homework and learning. Parents can help children develop good working habits. Please show your child that homework is an important priority and you value its worth by offering the following kinds of support.

- Sit down with your child and together schedule a time for completing homework assignments. Homework habits are more easily formed if children work at the same time each day.

- Help your child choose an appropriate study location – a quiet place, a desk or table for written work or a comfortable chair for reading.
- Provide your child with good lighting and necessary materials such as pencils, coloured pencils, paper and a dictionary.
- Ask your child to describe the assignment before beginning and later show you the completed work or summarize what he or she learned.
- If your child does need help, look over the material before you begin so you are familiar with the assignment.
- If your child becomes frustrated put the assignment away for a while.
- Please be available to check whether the assignment has been completed.
- Praise your child for completing homework.
- When possible, help your child relate homework assignments to everyday life and skills.

Board of Management Ratification

This policy is hereby ratified by the Board of Management of Scoil Bhríde Primary School.

Signed: *Nicola Hogan*

Date: *08/02/2023*

Ms. Nichola Hogan (Chairperson BOM)