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SCOIL BHRIDE N.S. LISDOWNEY

POLICY

Reasons for Homework

- As a link between home and school. Strengthening the partnership between parents/guardians, teachers and children.
- Parents/Guardians can become actively involved in the child's progress and identify any problems that the child may have.
- To evaluate and build on work undertaken in the classroom.
- To give children the opportunity to memorise and further study areas already taught in school, e.g. History, Geography, Poetry, Spelling, Reading, Tables etc.
- To make use of materials and sources of information which may not be accessible in the classroom.
- As an exercise in self-discipline, to develop independent study habits which can prove invaluable later.

Infants

1. Allow children their childhood - children learn through play. It is most important that parents spend time talking, listening and reading to their children.
2. Encourage children to help in the home from an early age with age appropriate tasks and to tidy up after themselves.
3. In infant classes homework is sometimes given but is not recorded by pupils. Parents should speak to their children about what they have been doing during the day and ask them to sing songs or say verses. Parents should also check children's bags daily for worksheets, which

may be given.

4. It is strongly recommended that children be read to daily.
5. When children begin to read they should be listened to and continue to be read to.
6. Parents must ensure that methods employed in helping children are similar to those used in school.
7. Young children have a very positive attitude towards the use of Irish; parents should encourage this attitude at all times in the home.
8. The Letterland book and cards as presented by the school are a very valuable resource and should always be used by parents and child as a pre-reading exercise. It is most important that children learn how to make the letters correctly and also the sounds which the letters make.

1st - 6th Class

Homework is generally assigned to all classes from 1st - 6th class, Monday - Thursday and is written into the pupils Homework journal. The journal must be signed by parents when they are satisfied that the homework has been completed to the best of their child's ability.

Homework at Weekends

Paired reading is recommended. The reading of library books is encouraged at all times including weekends. Homework is not generally given at weekends except in certain circumstances (see sanctions under school code of behaviour)

Please ensure that all children in all classes maintain their books and bags in a fitting manner.

Time spent on Homework

It is difficult to specify how long children at various levels should spend on homework as the time depends on

1. The age of the pupil.
2. The child's ability to listen in class and to learn.
3. The child's level of concentration.
4. The suitability or otherwise of the learning environment.
5. The time of evening when homework is undertaken.
6. The homework may take various forms, e.g. - looking at T.V. programme/newspaper; looking up resources; discussion on topic with parents etc. may be requested as homework.

The following times may be used as a guide to parents

Infants	5 - 15 minutes
1st - 2nd	20 - 30 minutes
3rd - 4th	30 - 45 minutes
5th - 6th	45 - 75 minutes

7. If children are experiencing difficulty with homework the parent/guardian should speak to the class teacher.
8. Effort will always be recognised.
9. The incidental use of Irish in the home is to be encouraged. Parents/guardians are asked to sign the homework journal having checked that all assigned work has been completed - written and oral.

Note: **All subject areas have equal importance.**

The B.O.M. of Scoil Bhríde reserves the right to add to, or amend, this policy as is deemed necessary

This policy was ratified by the B.O.M. on 2nd. December 2002
This policy was revised on April 7th '08 and ratified by the B.O.M.

Brian Lyons
Chairperson

Mairead Dowling
Principal Teacher

I have read Scoil Bhríde N.S. Homework Policy and agree to abide by the contents.

Parent/Guardian 1: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian 2: _____ **Date:** _____