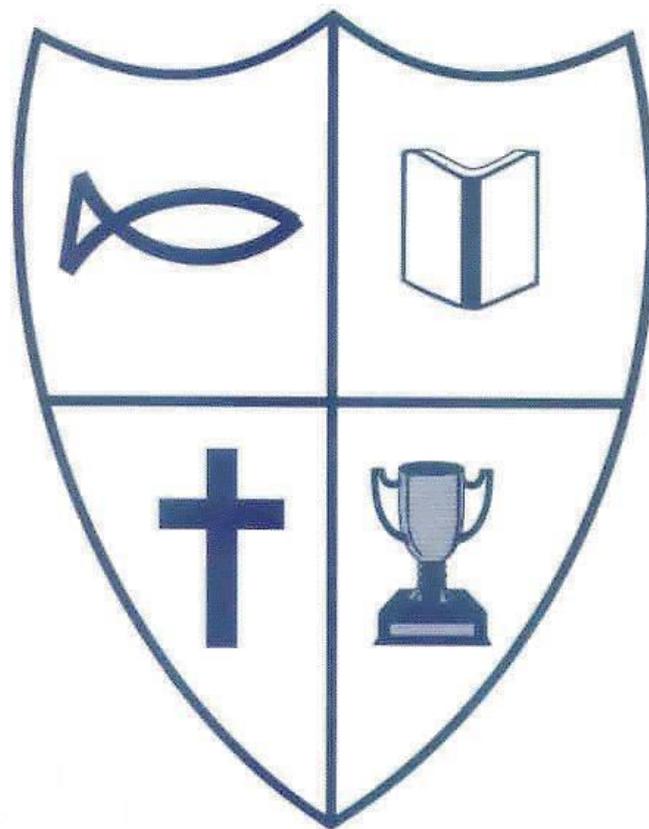


# **Aughnacloy Primary School**



## **Homework Policy**

At Aughnacloy Primary School we believe that homework plays an important part in school life. Children, parents and teachers benefit when careful thought is given to the form of homework most suitable to children's abilities.

### **General Principles:**

The principles and philosophy that underpin our work with children are those set out in the 'U.N.Convention on the rights of the child' (UK Agreement, 1991) and enshrined in the Children (NI) Order, 1995 (effective from November 1996).

#### UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

*Article 28 (right to education)*

*Every child has the right to an education.*

*Article 29 (goals of education)*

*Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.*

### **Why do we have homework?**

The main reasons for setting homework are:-

- ✓ To practice, reinforce and consolidate what is learnt in school.
- ✓ To promote study skills.
- ✓ To extend the child's learning from classroom to home.
- ✓ To forge and develop the link between home and school.
- ✓ To encourage and maintain parental involvement.

Written Homework will be given by every teacher Monday - Wednesday. On Thursday night children will concentrate on reading, spellings and tables.

Primary 1 will get their homework for the whole week each Monday, to be returned by Friday.

Primary 2-4 will get their homework for the whole week each Monday, to be returned by Thursday, or sooner if all completed.

Primary 5 -7 will get their homework for the week each Monday, but are expected to hand in their homework the night after it has been set.

***How long should pupils spend on homework?***

The following is a guide to the **approximate** length of time pupils should spend on written homework each night. Some pupils may take a little longer while others may finish in a shorter time.

<b>Primary 1</b>	<b>15 minutes</b>
<b>Primary 2</b>	<b>20 minutes</b>
<b>Primary 3</b>	<b>25 minutes</b>
<b>Primary 4</b>	<b>35 minutes</b>
<b>Primary 5</b>	<b>45 minutes</b>
<b>Primary 6</b>	<b>60 minutes</b>
<b>Primary 7</b>	<b>60 minutes</b>

***This does not include reading or learning of spellings and tables.  
There will be no homework at weekends or during holidays.***

***Reading for pleasure***

- The importance of the parent's role in reading books to young children and with young children cannot be emphasized strongly enough.

- Similarly, it is vitally important that older children who have become independent readers spend time reading books of their own choice.
- The school's libraries have a good selection of fiction and non-fiction books.
- The local community libraries should also be visited regularly.

From time to time the teacher's discretion may be used to waive homework.

### ***Homework and ICT***

Pupils will be given regular opportunities to complete homework tasks using ICT eg. word processing, producing information through diagrams or graphs or researching information. Provision will be made in school for those pupils who do not have computer access at home.

### ***How parents can help.***

Homework offers an opportunity for parents to become involved in their child's education. It offers a partnership between home and school.

### ***What can parents do to ensure that homework become an effective means of supporting the learning process?***

- Pick a regular time each day.
- Do not leave homework until late in the evening when children are becoming tired.

- Turn off the television etc and avoid distractions.
- Older children should, if possible, go to a quiet room to do their homework.
- Do not spoil the whole evening because of homework.
- Try not to spend more than the appropriate time on homework.
- Try to avoid confrontation!
- Talk to your child about her/his homework
- Talk to the teacher immediately if your child is having problems.
- Encouraging daily reading
- Promoting a positive attitude/praise good work. Look at teacher's comments and feedback on previous homework to encourage your child. Take time to celebrate good work.

***What can teachers do to ensure that homework is an effective means of supporting the learning process?***

- Homework should be closely related to class work.
- When marking, teachers should ensure that comments made are positive and constructive.

***What should parents do if their child has problems with homework?***

- Parents should note the problem in the homework diary or it may be preferable to speak to the teacher after school hours.

- Parents should inform the teacher concerned if, on a regular basis their child takes longer than the recommended time to do their homework. The issue can then be addressed in partnership.

### ***Conclusion***

Our teaching staff place great value on the benefits of homework and appreciate the help of the parents in supporting their children's learning.

### **What if homework is not completed?**

Each class have signed up to an agreed set of consequences for not completing homework in the allocated time.

February 2019