



St Fintan's NS Sutton

Homework Policy

Introduction:

It is the policy of St Fintan's N.S. to have homework, as part of the pupils' curriculum work being taught throughout the school. Homework is seen as a *continuation and reinforcement* of the work being done in the school and also it provides a link between school and home.

The purpose of homework is:

- To consolidate and reinforce the work being done in the school.
- To encourage the children to work on their own and develop the habit of independent study.
- To learn how to organise and use their free time.
- To encourage parental familiarity with classwork.
- To encourage and strengthen the link between school and home.

Guidelines for parents:

- Help and encourage your child - but stop short of doing their homework for them.
- Having a set routine and time for homework is very helpful for the child.

- If your child is experiencing difficulties with homework, please put a note in the homework notebook or arrange to meet the class teacher and discuss the matter.
- It is important that you sign the child's homework each night. This encourages greater neatness and effort.
- Generally there will be no homework given at weekends.

Appropriate Amount of Homework:

It is school policy that individual teachers decide on the amount of homework which they consider appropriate. The following are guidelines only of the homework that may be given to the classes and the amount of time it should take:

Junior and Senior Infants (Time: 5 - 10 minutes.)

- Jolly Phonics Sound Book;
- Jolly Phonics workbook;
- Reading new words from box/bag list;
- Reading books;
- Other worksheets as deemed necessary.

First and Second Class (20-30 minutes)

- English reading
- Irish reading
- Spellings
- Mathematics written & tables
- Religion.

Third and Fourth Class (30-40 minutes)

- English reading, Irish reading, Irish and English spellings;
- Mathematics and tables;
- Written work in all subjects.

Fifth and Sixth Class (40-60 minutes)

- English reading, Irish reading, Irish and English spellings;
- Mathematics and tables;
- Written work in all subjects;
- Project work occasionally.

Homework during times of pupil Absence

In the event that a pupil is absent from school over a prolonged period due to illness, the class teacher may liaise with parents / educational support services in an effort to keep the pupil up to date with the most important items being covered in class.

In the event that a pupil is absent from school to go on a family holiday or similar event it is school policy not to issue homework for that period.

The policy will be evaluated on an annual basis by the staff and reviewed annually by the Board of Management.

This Policy was ratified by the Board of Management in January 2015. This policy will next be reviewed by the Staff in January 2017.

Chairperson:

Paul O'Connor

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