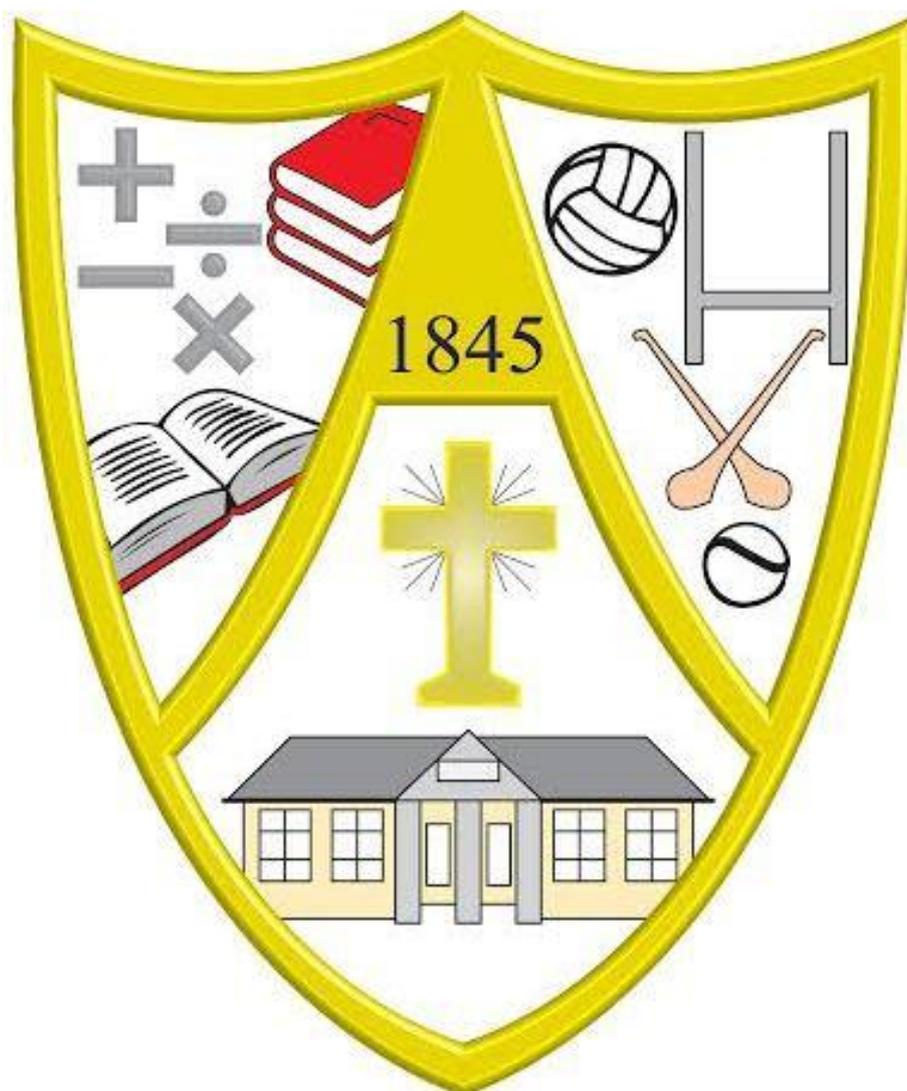


JONESBORO PRIMARY SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY 2021





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DEFINITION

At Jonesborough Primary School we view homework as being a supported or independent task undertaken outside of curriculum time which reinforces, extends or enriches current learning.

Aims of prescribing a homework

Homework is set to supplement, reinforce and consolidate by practice and application, what has been learned at school

Homework has a positive effect on pupil achievement

Homework should expand and extend our pupils' range of experiences from the classroom to the home

Homework can forge a powerful link and partnership between home and school, teachers and parents.

Homework should elicit a reaction from the teacher which will prove important for each child's motivation.

Homework gives parents a positive view of classroom work.

Homework involves parents in the child's learning

PURPOSE

The purpose of homework at Jonesborough Primary School is to provide opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's learning. It enables children to practise and consolidate skills and aims to broaden the context of learning and provide enrichment and extension. Finally, it aims to enable children to take responsibility for their own learning, to become independent learners and to develop perseverance.

ROLE OF THE CLASS TEACHER

- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to parents when necessary and give guidance on how they might assist their child.
- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- To ensure that homework is set consistently across classes.
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- To reward and praise children who complete homework tasks to the best of their ability.
- To mark homework, and give feedback to pupil when appropriate.
- To ensure that homework tasks meet the child's individual needs, as outlined in the SEN policy.

ROLE OF THE CHILD

- To ensure they have everything they need to complete homework each week.
- To make sure they understand the tasks that have been set.
- To complete homework with the same level of effort as would be expected in class.
- To hand the homework in on time.
- To take on board any feedback about homework.

While we support the role of parents/carers we still expect your child to complete their homework as independently as possible, except where adult support is required (foundation stage KS). As children move into Key Stage Two, they are expected to take increasing responsibility themselves for the completion of their homework but they should still be signed by a parent/carer.

ROLE OF THE PARENTS/CARERS

- To make it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.
- To support the school by ensuring that his/her child attempts the homework, and completes it to the best of their ability.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework i.e. at a table in a quiet space.
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities i.e. listening to reading and asking questions about the reading, checking that spellings and mental maths facts have been learned and checking written homework to ensure neatness and completion.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework.
- To sign the homework when it is completed. This does not mean that the teacher expects errors to be corrected. Signing is seen as an indication that the parent is happy with their child's effort.
- To provide an email/ written explanation to the class teacher if, for any reason, your child is unable to complete a homework.

At Jonesborough Primary School we expect parents to support and help their child/ren with homework. Parents are requested to inform the teacher of any difficulties which the child may experience in completing the homework. Parents can do this by emailing the class teacher to the email address provided.

We have provided some guidance to support parents with their child's homework [Appendix 1]. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be, they should discuss it with their child's teacher.

RANGE OF HOMEWORK ACTIVITIES

A variety of tasks are used to meet planned learning objectives. These can include:

- Speaking and listening activities
- Reading
- Spelling and word investigations
- Book reviews
- Reading comprehension
- Independent research
- Practical maths investigations
- Collecting items linked to a theme
- Skills practice across a range of areas
- Data collection
- Educational games

Homework, generally, will be set each day from Monday to Thursday. The nature and amount of work to be completed at home will depend on the age and ability of the child. All homework tasks and activities will have a clear purpose and assist pupils in the progress of their academic development.

The concept of prescribed amount of homework has little relevance if a homework task is of an informal nature e.g. art and design work, making a report on a TV/Digital programme, interviewing a parent/grandparent, reading or gathering information for a topic or project.

PUPILS WHO ARE ABSENT

If a child is absent due to illness it is the policy of the school NOT to send homework home. The assumption would be that the child was too ill to work.

If a child is absent for a length of time e.g. with a broken leg, the teacher and the parent will agree what homework should be completed, how it should be marked and what sort of support is required to help the pupil. This will be done in consultation with the principal.

Teachers will not prepare classwork/homework for a child who is being withdrawn from school for a family holiday.

MODIFICATIONS AND EXEMPTIONS

Formal homework may be removed or reduced: during preparations for assessment, prior to an organised school or sacramental event or in consultation with parents due to an exceptional family circumstances.

A teacher or principal may award a 'homework' pass to a child as a reward for displaying notable effort or endeavour

HOMEWORK

Activities and timeframe

| Class | Homework- weekly content | Approximate Time |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Primary 1 | <p>Reading activity 3x per week Number activity Once a week Literacy activity Once a week</p> <p>Religion/WAU/PDMU home page activity when appropriate</p> | 20 minutes inclusive. |
| Primary 2 | <p>Reading activity 3 x per week Literacy activity Once a week Numeracy activity Once week</p> <p>Spellings/Phonics – from Term 3 4x per week</p> <p>Religion/WAU/PDMU home page activity when appropriate</p> | 25 minutes inclusive |
| Primary 3 | <p>Reading activity 2x per week Numeracy activity Once a week Literacy activity Once a week Spelling/Phonics activity 4 nights</p> <p>Term 3 - One additional literacy or numeracy task</p> <p>Religion/WAU/PDMU home page activity when appropriate</p> | 25 - 35 minutes |
| Primary 4 | <p>Reading activity 2x per week Spelling/Phonics/ Mental Maths activity 4 nights</p> <p>Literacy activity 2x nights Numeracy Activity 2x nights</p> <p>Learning Prayers as appropriate for Sacramental preparation</p> | 35 - 40 minutes |
| Primary 5 | <p>Reading activity 2x nights Spelling/Phonics/Mental Maths activities 4x nights</p> <p>Literacy 2x nights Numeracy 2x nights</p> <p>Religion/WAU/PDMU home page activity when appropriate</p> | 45 minutes |

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Primary 6 | Reading activity 2 nights Spelling/Phonics/Mental Maths activities 4 nights Literacy 2 nights Numeracy 2 nights Religion/WAU/PDMU home page activity when appropriate | 1 hour |
| Primary 7 | Reading activity 2 nights Spelling/Phonics/Mental Maths activities 4 nights Literacy 3 nights Numeracy 3 nights Sacramental preparation activities as appropriate | 1- 1 hour 15min |

In addition to guided or supported homework parents should encourage their children to regularly read from a variety of texts/genre e.g. familiar readers, comics, topic/interest material to extend reading skills increase fluency and develop a love of reading

Parents are asked to use their discretion with the length of any homework. Whilst we of course encourage parents to supervise, help and check homework, we do not encourage parents to 'do' the homework for children.

QUERIES ABOUT HOMEWORK

If your child has a problem completing the homework or you have any questions, please [email the class teacher](#) or write a note in their homework book. We will do all that we can to resolve the problem. Your support in the process is vital for children's success in developing self-study skills as they move on up through the school.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF HOMEWORK POLICY

In order to ensure that our Homework Policy directly contributes to the quality of teaching and learning the provision of homework will be regularly monitored. Samples of homework activities will be reviewed by the principal and Senior Manager as part of the school's self-evaluation process. In addition, the monitoring of homework samples will form part of the Literacy and Numeracy co-ordinators' monitoring responsibilities.

Parents will also be given opportunities to share their views with teachers at parent consultations and other occasions as appropriate.