

Scoil San Nioclás

Homework Policy

Introduction

This policy has been formulated in consultation with parents, pupils and teachers of Scoil San Nioclás. It replaces an existing Homework Policy.

Rationale

Homework fosters independence, self-reliance, self-esteem, co-operation, responsibility and life-long learning. We believe it is an essential part of primary education for the following reasons:

- It reinforces what children learn in school
- It provides a link between teacher and parent
- It encourages parental involvement in their child's education

Homework content

Homework is given on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Homework may contain a balance between reading tasks, learning tasks, written tasks and independent research.

Duration of Homework

It is important to note that it is the quality and not the quantity of homework that matters. Different children will complete the same homework in different lengths of time. The following is a general guideline:

- Infant classes – up to 15 minutes
- 1st & 2nd classes – up to 20 minutes
- 3rd & 4th classes – up to 30 minutes
- 5th & 6th classes – up to 40 minutes

Note: If a child has spent the recommended time on homework, parents may write a note to the teacher explaining why the homework has not been completed.

Role of the Teacher

Teachers, including Special Education Teachers (SET)

- Assign homework appropriate to the needs of the class
- Monitor homework on a regular basis

Role of the Parent

Parents / Guardians help their child by:

- Encouraging a positive attitude towards homework
- Encouraging children to work independently
- Encouraging children to organise themselves for homework
- Agreeing a suitable time for doing homework
- Providing a quiet space and suitable work surface, free from distractions
- Encouraging good presentation and neatness within the suggested time frame
- Signing the Homework Diary daily
- Checking that the child has all they need for the following day

Role of the Pupil

- Enter homework accurately in Homework Diaries
- Ensure they take home relevant books and copies
- Complete homework assignments to their best ability

Distance Learning

In circumstances where teaching cannot be conducted on the school premises, teachers may use an online platform, approved by the Principal, to assist with distance learning where necessary.

The school has enabled the most up-to-date security and privacy features which the relevant online platform provides.

Parents / Guardians will be expected to monitor their child's use of online platforms.

Implementation, Review and Communication

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management in February, 2023. The policy was communicated to parents and its contents implemented at that time. The policy will be reviewed as necessary.

Signed: Kathleen Moore Chairperson Date: 08/02/2023

Signed: Margaret Lowry Principal Date: 08/02/2023