



# St. Louis National School - Rathkenny

School Road, Rathkenny, Navan, Co Meath. C15 PH60

E-mail: [rathkennyschool@gmail.com](mailto:rathkennyschool@gmail.com) Phone: 046 9054417

Registered Charity No.: 20131036 School Roll No. 15483H

School Website: <http://stlouistrathkenny.scoilnet.ie/>

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## Homework Policy

### Who was involved in drafting this policy

- Parents Survey
- Pupil Survey
- Staff reflection

(Please see results attached)

### How often is homework given?

- Homework is given on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays but not on Fridays.
- Sometimes at the discretion of the class teacher or the principal, children are given "Homework off" as a treat or as acknowledgment of some special occasion
- Please note extra homework may be sometime be given during the week or at the weekend if a child has not done homework, made a suitable effort or presented untidy work.

### What is the content of homework?

- Ideally homework will contain a balance between reading tasks and learning tasks and limited writing tasks
- This balance is not always possible and can vary from day to day.
- Homework devoted to reading and learning is where we have decided to place our focus
- Homework could contain reading, spellings, tables, pieces to be learned by heart, creative tasks, collecting information/items, research, project based activities, active homework and finishing work started in class

### How much time for homework?

The following are guidelines for time spent at homework. Different children will complete the same homework in different lengths of time. Time spent will vary from day to day and also from the beginning to the end of the school year. It is important to remember that it is the quality and not the quantity of homework that matters. The following are general guidelines only:

Infants	5 - 10 minutes
Rang 1&2	Up to 15 minutes



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Rang 3 – 6

Up to 30 minutes

## How much help should parents give?

- Encourage a positive attitude towards homework
- Check pupils have all the necessary materials
- Encourage good, appropriate presentation
- Parents should try to help their children with homework by:
  - Providing them with a suitable place and time to do their homework
  - To prevent interruptions or distractions, like T.V. or other children
- Children should do written homework themselves and parents should only help when the child has difficulty
- If a child has difficulty with homework, the parents should help the child to overcome the difficulty with further explanation or examples, but not by doing the homework for the child. In this case the parent should write a note to the teacher explaining the problem
- Listening to their children read
- Asking them questions orally on their reading
- Help them to learn tables and spellings

## How often should parents monitor homework?

- Parents should check a child's homework each evening
- Ideally, all written messages to your child's teacher should be put in the homework journal (additional pages available at the end of the journal)
- Please check that your child records his/her homework neatly
- Teachers can send home notes/consent forms in homework journals

## How often do teachers monitor homework?

- Ideally teachers like to check homework on a daily basis. However with multi classes, it is not always possible to check each child's homework every day
- As children get older and learn to work independently, some items of homework are checked less often
- Some items of homework (and classwork) may be checked by children themselves under the direction of the teacher. This can be a useful part of the learning process for children.

## When should parents communicate with the teachers about homework?

- When your child cannot do homework due to family circumstances
- When your child cannot do homework because she/he cannot understand some aspect
- If the time being spent at homework is often longer than the recommended amount of time.



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## When should homework be done?

- Each family situation is different - both parents working, child minders, etc. Ideally, homework should be done before any television is watched soon after school while your child is still fresh, however, some children need a break before starting homework
- Homework should never be left until morning time before school

## What happens when homework is not done?

When homework is not completed to satisfaction on a regular basis, a child will miss some golden time

When homework is consistently not done, parents are informed

## Ratification

This policy will be monitored and reviewed when necessary

Staff, parents and pupils should be aware of the contents of this policy.

It will be placed on our school website.

## Remember

**If homework is a stressful experience between parent and child, something is wrong! This leads to poor learning and defeats the whole purpose. Should this happen on a regular basis, please contact the class teacher.**

Ratified by St Louis NS 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Signed Genny Boyle

Chairperson Board of Management