

St. Mary's Parish Primary School

Bryanstown, Drogheda, Co. Louth.

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HOMEWORK POLICY

Why is homework given?

- Homework is given to reinforce what a child has learned during the day.
- To provide a link between the class teacher and parents.

When is homework given?

Homework is typically given on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Homework may be assigned on Fridays:

- if homework is neglected during the week.
- In senior classes some project work may be undertaken at weekends.
- No homework given for the first 2 weeks in Sept. Over the next 2 weeks homework is gradually introduced with initial emphasis on spellings / reading and learning.

Sometimes, at the discretion of the teacher or principal, children are given “homework off” as a reward or as an acknowledgement of a special occasion. This applies to written homework only.

Homework Content:

- In general, homework is meant to be achievable by pupils working on their own to the best of their ability and is differentiated to match their ability.
- Ideally homework will contain a balance between reading tasks, learning tasks and written activities.
- The balance is not always achievable and can vary from day to day. However, it should be noted that homework time devoted to reading and learning is as important to that given to written homework.
- It is expected that all homework assigned will be completed. A high standard of neatness and penmanship is expected.
- It is important to remember that it is quality and not quantity of homework that matters. The following are general guidelines as to the maximum time to be spent. Where homework is taking longer than this, parents should make contact with the class teacher.

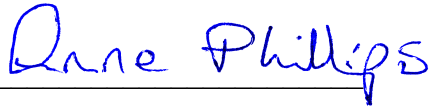
Infants	0-20 minutes	Rang 1&2	20-30 minutes
Rang 3&4	30-40 minutes	Rang 5&6	40-60 minutes

Role of Parents/Guardians:

- Set a suitable time for homework, provide an appropriate working environment and ensure their child has all necessary books and equipment to complete homework.

- Encourage the child to do his/her best, observe the work, give credit for effort, check completed work.
- Prompt and guide if help is necessary. However, homework should be the pupil's own work. Any difficulties arising or if homework is not completed should be communicated to the class teacher by writing a note in the homework journal or by making an appointment to speak with him/her. **Parents are asked to sign homework journal /sheet each night when homework has been completed.**

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management on 3rd October 2019 and was reviewed in Sept. 2023. It will be reviewed in 2026.



Anne Phillips

Chairperson , B.O.M

Date 27th September, 2023

APPENDIX 1: Typical content of homework over a week on a nightly basis

<p><u>JUNIOR INFANTS</u> Grow in Love page once a week Fine motor skills 1 letter sound per week (recognition & writing) PM words PM reader Maths number work book <i>Homework increases/varies throughout the year</i></p>	<p><u>THIRD CLASS</u> Tables+ Mental Maths 10 mins Spellings and Activity 5 mins English Writing+English Reading 15 mins After halloween Gaeilge Spellings- 5 Mins Gaeilge reading +Questions 15 mins (alternate days with English) 30-35 mins</p>
<p><u>SENIOR INFANTS</u> Sight words PM reader Written exercise (handwriting, maths etc) Religion page - once a week</p>	<p><u>FOURTH CLASS</u> Reading (English & Gaeilge) Spellings (English & Gaeilge) Tables Maths English Writing Gaeilge Writing Occasional Project Work</p>
<p><u>FIRST CLASS</u> Reader & focus words PM book Spellings 2 Sentences Grow in Love (once per week) Mental Maths - 10 sums Tables (after mid-term)</p>	<p><u>FIFTH CLASS</u> English Reading English Spelling English Written Work Gaeilge reading, writing, spelling & verbs Maths Tables S.E.S.E. (learning occasionally)</p>
<p><u>SECOND CLASS</u> PM Book / library Reader Spellings from Jolly Phonics (differentiated where necessary) Mental Maths Tables (addition and subtraction) Sentences or other written work Grow in love (once per week) Prayers for Holy Communion as appropriate</p>	<p><u>SIXTH CLASS</u> Reading (15mins) Spellings English & Irish (10 mins) English (15 mins) Maths (4 to 6 Questions) (10 mins) Comhra (5 mins) Prayers SESE Learning Briathra Gaeilge</p>