



St Mary's Primary School

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Homework Policy

1) Why give homework?

- To re-inforce what the child learns during the day
- To provide a link between teacher and parent
- To develop a child's concentration skills and work ethic

2) How often is homework given?

- Homework is given on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays but not on Fridays
- Sometimes children are given "homework off" at the discretion of the class teacher or the principal as a treat or as acknowledgment of some special occasion

3) What is the content of homework?

- Homework will contain a balance between reading tasks, learning tasks and written tasks. Homework will regularly contain reading, maths activities, spellings, tables, written work, pieces to be "learned by heart," drawing/colouring, collecting information/items, digital tasks and finishing work started in class.

4) How much (time) 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.

Junior Infants	0 - 10 minutes	Rang 3	Up to 40 minutes
Senior Infants	Up to 15 minutes	Rang 4	Up to 50 minutes
Rang 1	Up to 20 minutes	Rang 5	Up to 1 hour
Rang 2	Up to 30 minutes	Rang 6	Up to 1 hour

5) How much help should parents give?

- Parents can 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
- 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 actually doing the homework for the child.
- Similarly, if a child completes his/her work in double-quick time, parents can help their child by providing more challenging work
- Parents can play an important role by discussing homework tasks with their children, by listening to reading and items to be learned, and by checking written work and spelling.

6) How often should parents monitor homework?

- Parents should check and sign his/her child's homework journal every evening.
- The pupil's journal is an important record of the child's homework. It is also a valuable means of communication between parents and teachers.

- Parents can help by checking that the child records his/her homework neatly in the correct page and ticks each item of homework when completed.

7) **How often do teachers monitor homework?**

- Ideally teachers check homework on a daily basis
- Children themselves, under the direction of the teacher may check some items of homework. This can be a useful part of the learning process for children.

8) **Seesaw (School's Chosen Digital Platform Tool) for Homework**

- Teachers may assign some element of homework to be completed digitally and submitted digitally from home using the Seesaw Online Learning Tool

9) **When should parents communicate with the teachers about homework?**

- When a child cannot do homework due to family circumstances
- When a child cannot do homework because she/he cannot understand some aspect of homework tasks
- If homework takes longer than recommended amount of time on a regular basis
- If homework is a stressful experience between parent and child

Agatha 26/11/23

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