

# Homework Policy

Homework occupies a place in the education process and is a feature of the curriculum in virtually all schools. Homework offers a means by which parents can demonstrate their interest and their influence in a positive manner. It represents a regular link between home and school and, as such, should offer an opportunity for the development of active partnership between parent and teacher.

## Objectives

- Revision of aspects of class work of the day.
- Training to work and study independently.
- To provide an opportunity for parents to get involved in schoolwork and encourage their child to greater achievement.
- To allow parents to acquaint themselves with their child's progress.
- For the slow learner, the regular one-to-one help of parents is essential.

## Content:

Homework should be suited to abilities of the class and properly explained in advance. Homework in senior classes will cover a range of subjects and will normally be in written form. Sometimes project work, involving research into aspects of history, geography or nature, may be given as part of homework.

## Time:

The general view is that 10 to 20 minutes would be an appropriate time frame for infants and 1<sup>st</sup> class. 20 to 40 minutes for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> classes, and 50 to 60 minutes for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes.

**It must be stressed that these are suggested target times. In practice, the time taken will depend on the individual child and on the prevailing environment in the home.**

A set time for doing homework should be agreed with the child. Some may wish to do it before play, others after play.

## Parents:

It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that their child gives homework due time and effort. Parents should identify the most suitable time for homework, taking into account the need to play, relax and share family duties. Parents should provide proper conditions for homework, i.e., a quiet time and place, suitable work surface, reference books etc.

A parent's role is one of encouragement, observation and as a reviewer of completed work. Children in the junior classes will need a far greater input from parents than those in senior classes. As children progress through the school, they should be encouraged to become more independent and strive towards becoming "independent learners".

Parents should check through written work and show an interest in the subject matter of textbooks. Parents should contact the class teacher if difficulties arise regarding completion time or the inability to finish over a given period.

**Homework should be actively promoted by parents so that your children will appreciate it as a vital part of the educational process. It should be seen as a positive part of their development towards becoming independent and inquisitive learners in a holistic way.**

### **Correcting and Checking:**

Homework is corrected daily. The teacher will do random checking on written work and individual scrutiny when deemed necessary. However, it would be unrealistic to expect that all written work for every child would be checked daily. Presentation is almost as important as the content. A good effort is always recognised and rewarded.

### **Weekends:**

Generally, there is no homework at weekends, but it may be given at the teacher's discretion for specific purposes.