



JOHN SCOTTUS SCHOOL

SCOIL NÁISIÚNTA JOHN SCOTTUS

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Homework Policy

BOM Approved Sep 2011

Relationship to the Ethos of the School:

Homework fosters the aim, in the home environment, of developing the power of attention in the child. Secondly, it furthers the aim of developing self-discipline and self-confidence.

Aims:

1. to teach the child how to work independently of the teacher and the school environment
2. to develop study skills
3. to reinforce work done in class
4. to strengthen links between home and school

Content of Policy:

- All classes get homework.
- The amount of homework may vary amongst children in one class, depending on their individual capacity, their difference in age, and their inherent abilities.
- There will be a balance between oral, reading and written homework.
- Homework is given to the pupils immediately following a lesson in that subject.
- Parents are expected to sign the homework journal; this is checked on a daily basis.
- Homework is given four out of five days of the week, up to 4th Class and five days a week for 5th and 6th Class.
- Time that should be allowed for homework varies from 5 – 10 minutes for Junior Infants, up to 75 minutes for 6th Class.
- Homework is checked either during the Class on the following day, or in the older Classes the copies may be taken up and marked.
- Particularly well done homework is displayed, and poor homework is redone by the pupil.
- Consistently poor homework will result in contact from the Class Teacher to the home to encourage closer monitoring of the child at home.
- Class Teacher meetings clarify these homework procedures for the Parents.

Pupils:

1st class pupils are directed to take down their own homework in their Homework Journal, and to find time to do the homework at home. If they are having problems with homework, they are encouraged to seek help from their parents, and to tell the teacher the following day.

Parents / Guardians

Parents are asked to help the pupil establish a rhythm in doing their homework: the child should have a quiet place, uncluttered, and clean, and without the noise of radio or television distracting them. They should encourage full attention to the job in hand and then, once done, to forget about it.

Where difficulties arise in Homework, parents are asked to advise same through a note written into the Homework Journal.

Parents are free to give help to the child by way of encouragement and asking the child guided questions. It is obviously meaningless to give the child the answers, because then everyone loses, and no useful information is passed back to the Class Teacher.

Note: Holidays taken during the School Term: if a child is missing from School for a family holiday, s/he cannot be provided with work by the Class Teacher, and the work cannot be corrected. The Teacher will be able to inform the parents of what was covered in the various subjects.

Success Criteria:

Good homework will be submitted by pupils if the policy is working. The pupils and the parents will also be at ease with the whole process, and the teacher will be satisfied with the outcome as well.