



Ballyvester Primary School

Homework Policy

Our school's success is largely due to the interest that you, the parents, take in the education of your children.

Homework is one major area where a point of contact between home and school may be fostered. It is a point where perhaps each evening, schoolroom and living room overlap. Learning at school affects and is affected by learning at home.

The Purpose of Homework

- To encourage pupils to develop the skills needed for independent learning.
- To consolidate, reinforce and extend the skills, knowledge and understanding developed in the classroom.
- To give parents an insight into what is happening in school and to share in their child's learning.
- To develop an effective partnership between school and parents.

The Role of the Parent or Carer

- To provide a suitable quiet place to work.
- To talk about the homework and the importance of carrying out homework tasks.
- To check deadlines and help the child develop time management skills.
- To give praise for the successful completion of the work.
- To sign the completed work.
- To inform the teacher of any problems or difficulties he child is presenting in relation to the homework that could not be resolved at home.

Some homework is designed to produce parental involvement.

Homework Tasks

- Reading
- Spellings and phonics activities
- Tables / number facts
- Written activities
- Topic work
- Practical work / Investigations
- Learning homework

(This will vary from class to class)

The suggested time to be given to homework tasks

Class	Suggested time per night
Year 1	10 - 15 mins
Year 2	15 - 20 mins
Year 3	30 - 40 mins
Year 4	30 - 40 mins
Year 5	45 - 60 mins
Year 6	45 - 60 mins
Year 7	45 - 60 mins

Please note that the above times are approximate.

Organisational Issues

- There will be an explanation of what homework will be set, as part of the Induction afternoons in September.
- Homework tasks will be written into a homework diary and signed at home upon completion.
- If the tasks are taking too long to complete, parents may endorse unfinished work as having taken the allocated time.
- Parents should inform the teacher if there are persistent difficulties when completing homework.
- There may be occasions when no homework will be set.
- Homework will be marked as soon as possible.
- Teachers will inform parents if children are regularly failing to produce homework or if the standard of homework is unacceptable.
- Teachers may also give further ideas for topic work / research activities to be completed over longer periods
- Children in Year 1 will start reading homework using wordless books / library books / topic books to foster an enjoyment of reading and gradually be introduced to the school reading schemes when they have developed enough sight vocabulary to begin reading.

All library books, school books and school resources should be looked after carefully and returned to school at the proper time and in good condition.

Please note:

Class teachers keep a record of pupils who do not complete homework and this information is kept on file.

This document is freely available to the entire school community and is available on the school website. It will be reviewed on a two yearly basis.

Signed (Chair of Governors): _____

Signed (Principal): _____

Date: _____ Review Date: _____