



Holy Family NS Homework Policy

The Board of Management of Holy Family National recognises that homework is an integral link between school and home. Parents/Guardians can monitor the progress of their children through continual reference to homework and liaison with teachers. Homework fosters independence, self-reliance, self-esteem, co-operation, responsibility, resilience and life-long learning.

In general, homework is meant to be achievable where a child works on their own to the best of their ability. However, there are also times when homework will require a parent to assist their child to complete a task. It is normally prepared by the teacher in class. It can be used to practise what is done in school or can be designed to challenge children's ability and provide opportunities for creativity.

Aims

The broad aims of this homework policy are to:

- promote the use of homework to consolidate learning and work being done at school
- promote consistency and a uniform approach to homework across all teachers and class levels
- keep parents in touch and involved in their child's education
- develop and encourage the habit of independent study
- enable children to develop a sense of responsibility and independence
- enhance self-esteem through the provision of differentiated work
- further develop links between home and school

Guidelines for Teachers

- Homework should be an integral part of the subject being taught and given in order to consolidate work done.
- Homework will be prepared and explained to pupils in advance.
- Homework will be consistent and given in such a way as to form a pattern for the children so that they are more likely to remember it.
- Teachers will check that homework is being done and will give extra help where difficulties occur. Teachers will also differentiate homework as appropriate for pupils with additional needs.
- Homework will be given via an online platform at least but not limited to once per week. Platforms used in Holy Family NS are Seesaw and Google Classroom.

Duration of Homework

- Infants	10 – 15 minutes
- 1 st & 2 nd Class	20 – 30 minutes
- 3 rd & 4 th Class	30 – 40 minutes
- 5 th & 6 th Class	40 – 60 minutes

- (If a child has spent the recommended time working on homework, parents may “sign off” if they feel the work assigned is too difficult or taking too much time, the length of *quality time* spent on the work should also be recorded).
- Where a pupil receives homework from their SET teacher, the class teacher and SET will collaborate in relation to the nature and type of homework the child is to receive. Homework should not exceed the times indicated above.
- Homework for pupils in The Rock Hub is at the discretion of the class teacher in collaboration with parents

- Homework is communicated to parents via Seesaw/Email/Google Classroom. This is at the discretion of the class teacher. An opportunity will be given for children to write down their homework if they do not have access to online tools at homework time e.g., Childcare/Afterschool settings.

Expectations of Pupils

It is expected that pupils will:

- Return their homework on time
- Complete and present their homework to the best of their ability
- Appreciate that study tasks and learning spellings and tables are as important as written tasks.
- Provide a note or email to the teacher explaining why a task is incomplete, if homework has not been completed.

Guidelines for Parents

The school encourages the active involvement of parents in enabling their child to take responsibility and work independently. Parents are encouraged to:

- Establish a set routine and time for your child to do his/her homework, it is extremely beneficial if this is the same time each day.
- Supervise children's homework, checking the homework when it is completed.
- Try to allow your child to work independently as they should be able to complete most of their homework with minimal support.
- Ensure that the time allocated is quality time spent on homework. This does not include distractions such as paring pencils, looking for items or frequent movement/ breaks.
- Ensure the space where homework is completed is quiet and comfortable for your child, that they have good lighting and all the materials required to complete their homework.

- Forward a note/email to the teacher if homework has not been completed due to unforeseen circumstances.
- Remember that time devoted to reading and learning is as important as written work.
- Praise your child for completing homework and show you value it by reading/discussing the homework with them.
- Please let your child's class teacher know if homework needs to be differentiated.

Remember support is available

Contact Mrs McGinn, our HSCL Teacher if you require further support with homework: Email: mrsmcginn@holyfamilyballyshannon.ie

Ph: 083 0094276

Review:

This policy will be reviewed in October 2028 or in advance if appropriate.

Ratification:

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management of Holy Family National School on 12th October 2023.

Signed: ***SJ Lewis*** Date: ***12/10/23.***
Principal

Signed: ***Very Rev. Canon R. Munster*** Date: ***12/10/23.***
Chairperson

