



## **Homework Policy**

*March 2023*

The Board of Management of SN Muire, Rampark recognises homework is an integral link in the chain of communication between school and home. Following from feedback from parents, pupils and staff this plan was formulated.

### **Aims**

In general, 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 / children'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 a work menu that is doable
- further develop links between home and school

### **Guidelines for Teachers**

- Homework should never be given unless the teacher has thoroughly prepared and explained what is to be done.
- Homework must be consistent – a small amount 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.
- Homework should not exceed the allotted times as follows:

- Infants	10 – 15 minutes
- 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class	20 – 30 minutes
- 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Class	30 – 40 minutes
- 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Class	40 – 60 minutes
- Homework is given from Monday to Thursday. Normally there is no homework at weekends.
- Written homework is not given in September, December and June as these times are recognised as being particularly busy times for families
- Homework is communicated to parents via Aladdin.
- Homework is given on a weekly basis, families choose how to schedule.

## **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.
- Bring a note to school explaining why a task is incomplete, if homework has not been completed.

## **Sanctions**

If a child has not completed all of their homework, a note should be provided by their parent, otherwise sanctions will apply. When implementing this policy, there must be leeway. A teacher will always use his/her discretion when implementing a sanction, taking due regard for issues surrounding the matter, the regularity of such an occurrence etc.

## **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 (please see below)
- 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.
- Forward a note 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.

## **Creating the Homework Habit**

Family situations, each one unique, undoubtedly influence a child's approach to homework and learning. Parents can help children develop good working habits. Please show your child that homework is an important priority and you value its worth by offering the following kinds of support.

- Sit down with your child and together schedule a time for completing homework assignments. Homework habits are more easily formed if children work at the same time each day.
- Help your child choose an appropriate study location – a quiet place, a desk or table for written work or a comfortable chair for reading.
- Provide your child with good lighting and necessary materials such as pencils, coloured pencils, paper and a dictionary.
- Ask your child to describe the assignment before beginning and later show you the completed work or summarize what he or she learned.
- If your child does need help, look over the material before you begin so you are familiar with the assignment.
- If your child becomes frustrated put the assignment away for a while.

- Please be available to check whether the assignment has been completed.
- Praise your child for completing homework.
- When possible, help your child relate homework assignments to everyday life and skills.

**Board of Management Ratification**

This policy is hereby ratified by the Board of Management of SN Muire, Rampark.

Signed:

Date: 28/03/23

Mr. Joseph McDonald (Chairperson BOM)

Reviewed: