

Gaelscoil Naomh Pádraig  
Homework Policy

Polasaí Obair Bhaile  
Gaelscoil Naomh Pádraig

November 2010

# Gaelscoil Naomh Pádraig Homework Policy

## **Title**

Homework Policy

## **Opening Statement**

Homework is an important part of a child's education. It links the home and school on a daily basis. It shows to some extent the curriculum that the children are following in the various subjects. The Board of Management hope that this homework policy will be of benefit to all concerned

## **Rationale**

- To promote positive home/school communications
- To enhance the child's rate of learning.
- To give parents the opportunity to participate in their child's learning.
- To give parents the opportunity to assess their child's progress.
- To strengthen the link between the home and school.
- To give the pupils an opportunity to further-study various aspects of the curriculum.
- As an exercise in self-discipline.
- To foster and develop individual study skills at an early age.
- To give pupils the opportunity to memorise certain aspects of the curriculum already taught in school.

## **Relationship to the characteristic spirit of the school**

In Gaelscoil Naomh Pádraig we aim to help every pupil reach the fullest of his/her potential in Gaelscoil Naomh Pádraig. Engaging in homework assignments encourages children to work independently and to become responsible for their own learning.

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## **Aims and Objectives**

- To develop skills and self discipline that will be of benefit to children in order to enhance learning
- To reinforce work done in class – it allows for revision and practice
- To develop study skills and to assist in establishing an appropriate routine for children in doing their homework
- To promote consistency and a similar approach to homework across all classes
- To encourage children to become independent learners and to revise, reinforce, finish work that has begun in school.
- To strengthen links and communication between home and school

## **Assigning Homework:**

Homework usually consists of written and oral assignments. This may include study and memorization. The children have Irish, English and Mathematics almost every night along with other subjects depending on the class level.

Memorisation is central to a child's education yet the children tend to neglect it. This part of the homework should always be checked by parents.

It is difficult to specify how long children should spend on homework for the following reasons:

- 1.The age of the pupil
- 2.The child's academic ability
- 3.The child's ability to learn in class
- 4.The place and the surroundings in which the child does his/her homework.
- 5.The time of evening when the homework is undertaken
6. Taking the above five points into account the following times may be

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used as guidelines to parents:

Naíonáin	5–20 minutes
Rang 1 agus Rang 2	20–40 minutes
Rang 3 agus Rang 4	40–60 minutes
Rang 5 agus Rang 6	50–75 minutes

1. Learning difficulties are taken into account when assigning homework.
2. Homework is adjusted to suit the individual needs of SEN pupils.
3. SEN pupils also receive homework from Learning support teachers and this is taken into account when class homework is assigned.
4. Learning styles and multiple intelligences are taken into account when assigning homework when necessary.
5. Homework is seen as reinforcement of work done in class.
6. The assigned homework is properly explained to children in advance.
7. Time is given on a daily basis to write down homework in the homework journal.
8. Homework is usually assigned from Monday to Thursday inclusive. There are some exceptions eg. homework pass – for good behaviour, weekends and special occasions)

## **Homework journal:**

Children from Rang 1 to Rang 6 have a homework journal.

Parents are expected to sign the homework journal every night.

## **Obair bhaile a cheartú:**

Each teacher has a specific system for checking homework.

Credit is given for effort as well as achievement.

A record is kept of pupils who, on a regular basis, fail to do homework or leave it at home. Parents are notified and any difficulties are discussed.

## **Ginearálta:**

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Family circumstances are taken into consideration when pupils are assigned certain tasks or activities as part of their homework.

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## Parents/Guardians

Coiste na dTuismitheoirí have a role in reviewing this policy on behalf of the parental body. All parents are made aware of the procedures in relation to homework and the following guidelines are given:

## How can you help?

- Speak to your child in positive terms about homework from an early age.
- Always praise their work or some aspect of it and encourage a constructive attitude towards it.
- Your child should do his/her homework independently encouraging self-reliance and self-discipline.
- If your child has difficulty with Maths then the method in the textbook should be used.
- Ensure that your child does their homework in a quiet place free from distractions.
- Have a mutually agreeable time for doing homework taking his/her age, time to play, relax and family time into account.
- Check your child's homework, ensure it is neat and presentable. Always sign your child's journal having checked that all assigned work is completed.
- Some children will require assistance with their homework. Please do not over help by doing the homework or giving the answers to questions. However a one-one situation with parent/guardian is beneficial.

## Success Criteria

Some practical indicators of this policy are as follows:

- Feedback from teachers, pupils, parents,

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•Satisfactory homework exercises and assignments submitted by pupils

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

The school staff is responsible for the implementation of this policy. The Principal is responsible for informing all new parents that the policy exists and for responding to queries in relation to the policy.

### **Implementation Date**

This policy has been implemented in the classrooms for many years. This review will be implemented in September 2011.

### **Timetable for review**

This policy will be reviewed during the 2013–2014 school year

### **Ratification and Communication**

This policy was reviewed and ratified by the BOM on 09–05–11.

New parents will be notified of the existence of the policy at the meeting for new parents in September each year. The policy will be posted to the school website.