

# **St. Brigid's National School**

## **Homework Policy**

**Aim:**

- ♦ To reinforce what the child learns during the day.
- ♦ To provide a link between teacher and parent
- ♦ Children are expected to do their homework to the best of their individual ability – no more- no less.

### **1. How often is homework given?**

- ♦ Homework is given on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and at the discretion of the teacher.
- ♦ Sometimes at the discretion of the class teacher or principal, children are given “homework off” as a treat or as acknowledgement of some special occasion.
- ♦ Please note homework may sometimes be repeated during the week or weekend if a child has not done homework, made suitable effort or presented untidy work.

### **2. What is the content of Homework?**

- ♦ Ideally homework will contain a balance between reading tasks, learning tasks and writing tasks.
- ♦ Homework will regularly contain reading, spelling, tables, written work, pieces to be “learned by heart”, drawing/colouring, collecting information/items and finishing work started in class.

### **3. How much time to be spent on Homework**

The following are guidelines only:

Senior/Junior Infants	20 minutes
1st & 2nd Class	40 minutes
3rd & 4th Class	up to 50 minutes
5th & 6th Class	up to 60 minutes

#### **4. How much help should parents give?**

Parents should help their children with homework by:

- ♦ Providing them with a suitable place and time to do their homework to prevent interruptions or distractions, like TV. or other children.
- ♦ Children should do written homework themselves and parents should only help when the child has difficulty.
- ♦ Parents should check learning work and reading e.g. tables.
- ♦ Parents should support teacher's methodology.
- ♦ Paired reading is not homework in the regular sense and it is simply meant to be an enjoyable exercise between parent and child.

#### **5. How often do teachers monitor homework?**

- ♦ Ideally teachers like to check homework on a daily basis.
- ♦ As children get older and learn to work independently some items of homework are checked less often.
- ♦ Children may check some items of homework and class work under the direction of the teacher.

#### **6. When should parents communicate with the teachers about homework and vice versa?**

- ♦ On occasion when homework is not done or completed, this should be communicated to the teacher by the parent.
- ♦ If individual teachers methodology varies to policy, it is communicated to the parent.