

St. Aloysius Primary School



Homework Policy

2015 / 2016

HOMework POLICY

HOMework IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE SCHOOL DAY.

By extending the child's learning from the classroom to home, homework forges an important link between home and school and between teachers and parents. In St. Aloysius we believe that the children's education should be life enhancing and should foster in them a sense of self confidence. Relating this to homework entails careful planning and great sensitivity on the part of the teacher to the demands they may be making on pupil's time, intellectual capabilities, home background and social conditions. Properly devised homework fosters initiative, develops independent learning skills and allows time for the practice, application and consolidation of what has been taught in school. If at all possible, homework should be enjoyable. It is more than an opportunity to practise skills already taught in school.

ALL CHILDREN WILL HAVE ORAL AND/OR WRITTEN HOMEWORK ON A REGULAR BASIS.

Aims: to reinforce class work,
to prepare pupils for new work in school,
to extend the children's knowledge and understanding,
to give parents an opportunity to see what is happening in school and to take some share in their child's learning,
to give pupils a chance to find out things for themselves,
to promote characteristics such as personal pride in achievement, initiative and self- confidence,
to provide children with an opportunity to develop some independence in their own work,
to arouse interest and curiosity,
to stimulate imagination.

EFFECTIVE USE OF HOMEWORK IS DEPENDENT ON FOUR FACTORS

- the environment of the child as the basis for learning,
- tasks which foster and create interests
- homework activities which are enjoyable experiences
- the values that parents place on homework.

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

-Homework is best done in an environment free from distraction so find a quiet place for the work to be done.

Please show an interest:

- ask questions and talk about the work.
- praise and encourage your child to do their best.
- check that work is properly presented and completed.
- try to avoid conflict with children over homework - this will be counter-productive, create stress and spoil the family atmosphere.
- sign homework if requested by the teacher.

Support and encouragement from parents help to boost children's confidence and their sense of achievement at ' a job well done'. The development of good study habits and the organisation and completion of homework to a high standard at an early age can help establish a pattern for future study.

CONTENT

Content will vary greatly and should include subject areas across the Northern Ireland Curriculum. There will be a balance between different types of homework set. Homework may require reading, writing, discussion, measuring, making something, illustrating, some form of research etc. It will be linked to what is happening in class, perhaps continuing a task or preparing for a topic to be studied in school.

BEWARE

Some children believe that if they have no written homework then they have no homework.

Reading, learning spellings, learning a prayer, learning tables etc are important forms of homework. Parents will be informed if children persistently do not produce their homework.

MARKING OF HOMEWORK

The setting and correction of homework will be counter productive if it is allowed to encroach on valuable teaching time. Therefore, different strategies will be used for marking homework. Depending on the purpose of the homework set marking may be carried out by:

- the teacher alone,
- the pupils alone ,
- the teacher alongside the pupil,
- other pupils.