



CLAREMORRIS BOYS NATIONAL SCHOOL

Kilcolman Road, Claremorris, Co. Mayo. F12 Y996. Roll no 19915H

Charity Number 20130701



Homework Policy

Introductory Statement

This policy was drawn up in consultation with the staff, parents and board of management of Claremorris Boys National School.

Rationale

The existing policy was due for review. This policy was drawn up in order to ensure that through Homework, children practice and consolidate the work done at school. It allows parents to help and support their child's learning. It encourages independent work.

Aims

By developing this policy this school aims to

- To encourage children to develop independence in their learning.
- To consolidate work being done at school.
- To involve parents in supporting their child's learning at home.
- To develop good study habits for lifelong learning.
- To ensure consistency and predictability with regard to homework at each class level.
- To allow for differentiation in line with pupil's abilities.

Guidelines Roles & Responsibilities

Guidelines for Teachers

- Homework is an integral part of the subject being taught and given in order to consolidate work done.
- When assigning Homework, ensure that it is well prepared and explained.
- Homework must be consistent – a small amount and given in such a way as to form a predictable pattern for the children, so that they are more likely to remember it.
- Teachers will use classroom systems to check that homework is being done consistently and to correct homework – where inconsistencies/difficulties arise for children, teachers will consult with parents to ascertain reasons and decide on how best to support improvement.
- Class Teachers assign homework. On occasion, Support Teachers may assign homework for children in Learning Support groups instead of the Class Teacher. Children will not be assigned double homework.



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- Home support activities will be agreed with parents when drawing up Individual Education Plans or Individual Learning Programmes for children with specified education needs.
- See sample nightly homework timeframe for each class level as a guide below.
- 'Catch up' work is not assigned for homework but will be allocated to Golden Time on a Friday, where children did not complete tasks due to deliberate lack of attention.
- There will be no homework assigned on weekends.
- There will be no homework assigned the first two weeks of September, instead trial runs in school will be conducted to help children become familiar with expectations.
- There will be no homework assigned in June.

Guidelines for Parents

- Establish a set routine and time for the child to do his homework, in a quiet place free from distractions.
- Foster independence: Help and encourage the child but not to do the homework for him.
- Forward a note to the teacher if homework has not been completed due to unforeseen circumstances.
- Homework should be an enjoyable exercise between parent and child.
- Parents are asked to check that homework assigned has been completed and to sign their child's homework notebook or homework assignment.
- Inform the teacher if homework is causing stress or upset for the child.
- Use the 'Talk about' homework as an opportunity to discuss aspects of the Social and Emotional programmes in school such as *Friends for Life*.

Guidelines for Children

- Children are responsible for recording the assigned homework or in the case of younger children bringing their Homework pack to and from school.
- All children are encouraged to take pride in their Homework in terms of its content, expression and presentation.
- Time must be given to reading and oral activities in both English and Irish each evening as well as written activities.
- 'Talk about' homework links with social and emotional support programmes in school.

Principal

- The principal plays a role in overseeing consistencies in terms of homework across the whole school.
- Ensuring a shared understanding of this homework policy.
- From time to time children are exempt from homework:



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1. When they get an individual principal's 'Homework Pass' which must be used within the month.
2. When the principal announces a 'No Homework' night for the whole school, following a significant special school occasion, during periods of hot weather to encourage outdoor play.
3. Child's birthday - with a day in May given to summer birthdays.
4. General subject passes are awarded to children for participating exceptionally well in school events and a decision is made between teacher and child on subject.
5. Where children are involved in Sporting Events, homework will be assigned before they leave for the event, to ensure consistency with their academic work.

Time Frame Guidelines

When a child is experiencing difficulty regularly with homework, it is a good idea to inform the teacher. The following is a suggested maximum guide as to how much time your child should spend on homework:

Second Class: 30 minutes

Third Class: 30-40 minutes

Fourth Class: 40-45 minutes

Fifth and Sixth Class: 45-60 minutes

There are many other activities which you can do with your child to support him at each class level - ideas and suggestions are provided through discussion with teachers, Parent Teacher Meetings and End of Year Reports.

Success Criteria

- Positive feedback from teachers, parents, pupils in relation to children's success with homework.
- Evidence of regular and consistently completed homework assignments
- Children's confidence and independence with regard to Homework.

Review

This policy will be reviewed in September 2026 by the board of Management. The policy will be reviewed initially after one year and then every three years, unless there is a compelling reason to review it earlier.



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Ratification and Communication

This policy was reviewed and ratified by the board of management of Claremorris Boys NS on the 6th of November 2023 and subsequently communicated to the school community via the school's website.

Signed: Colman Warde

Date: 06-11-2023

**Colman Warde, Chairperson,
Board Of Management.**

Signed: Ciarán Murray

Date: 06-11-2023

**Ciarán Murray, Secretary/Principal
Board Of Management.**