



**Coosan NS**

## **Homework Policy**

### **Introduction:**

Coosan NS seeks to enable each pupil to develop his/her potential. Homework encourages pupils to work independently and to take responsibility for their assignments while fostering self-reliance, self-esteem, co-operation and life-long learning.

Homework provides our children with the opportunity of revisiting learning experiences encountered during the school day along with practicing the skills and concepts associated with those learning experiences.

### **Aims:**

Homework is part of a continuous learning process and in Coosan NS we regard homework as important for the following reasons:

- It allows pupils the opportunity to revisit, revise and consolidate the skills, concepts and learning experiences encountered during the school day.

- It can help pupils to make more rapid progress in learning.
- It can involve parents/guardians and family in the pupil's work, to their mutual benefit.
- It gives pupils an opportunity for independent learning and study.
- It forms a link with the methods of study, planning and organisational skills crucial to success at secondary school and in later life.

### **Guidelines for Parents/Guardians:**

We ask parents/guardians to support their children by:

- Providing space and time for their child to do their homework and to turn off the television and radio until homework is finished.
- Checking that the homework is completed and by signing the homework journal.
- Regularly checking memorisation of tables.
- If a child has difficulty with homework, parents/guardians should help their child to overcome the difficulty with further explanation or examples, but not by actually doing the homework for the child.
- If a child is having persistent difficulty with their homework and this is causing a lot of frustration and anxiety, a note explaining this situation should be given to the teacher so that he/she can assist in addressing the issue.
- Certain aspects of the work may be unfamiliar to the parent/guardian e.g. methods used in Mathematics or aspects of the Gaeilge programme. If you, the parent/guardian are not familiar with certain parts of the curriculum please contact your child's teacher for clarification.
- If a child is ill and misses school for a length of time, the class teacher may provide the class homework on request through Google Classroom. If, however, a child misses school for a length of time, through holidays, class homework will not be provided.

### **Homework Journal:**

Parents/Guardians should check and sign a child's homework journal every evening.

The pupil's journal is an important record of the child's homework. It is also a valuable means of communication between parents/guardians and teachers.

Ideally, all written messages to your child's teacher should be put in the homework journal.

### **Guidelines for Pupils:**

Pupils should:

- Enter homework accurately into their homework journals.
- Ensure that they take home relevant books and copies.
- Complete homework assignments to the best of their ability.
- Present written work neatly.

### **Recommended Duration of Homework:**

Junior Infants – 10 to 15 minutes

Senior Infants – 15 to 20 minutes

First and Second – no more than 30 mins

Third and Fourth – 30 – 45 minutes

Fifth class – 45 minutes – 60 minutes

Sixth class – no more than 60 minutes

**Content:**

Homework will usually contain a balance between reading tasks, learning tasks and written tasks. However, this balance is not always possible and your child's homework can vary from day to day.

Homework will regularly contain reading, spellings, tables, written work, drawing/colouring, collecting information/items and finishing work started in class.

It must also be noted that homework time devoted to reading and learning is as important as written work. You may need to examine your child in such areas as tables, reading, spellings or poetry to see that it is properly learnt. Memorisation is an important aspect of homework that is sometimes neglected. Revision of previous work is also important.

## **Leisure Time Reading:**

Leisure time reading is essentially an out of school activity that may not fit easily into the homework model.

The cultivation of a regular reading habit privileges a child with a life enriching habit that will prove both pleasurable and valuable.

In order to foster and develop this habit in our children we must:

- Encourage children to choose books independently.
- Talk to children about their choice of books and be aware of what they are reading in their spare time.
- Encourage children to spend time reading on a regular basis.
- Continue reading aloud with your child as long as he/she considers it an enjoyable activity.
- Join the local library.

## **Review:**

The implementation of this policy will commence during the academic year 2015/2016

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Re-ratified by Staff: March 2018.

Re-ratified by Board of Management: March 2018.

Reviewed by staff on

Re-ratified by the Board of Management on

