



Strandtown
Primary School

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Home Learning Policy

September 2018

HOME LEARNING POLICY

AIMS

-  To develop self-esteem & confidence through the medium of homework.
-  To reinforce & consolidate classwork.
-  To give parents an insight into the daily work of the class.
-  To encourage independent learning, self-discipline & concentration.
-  To encourage a positive attitude towards the quality & presentation of work.
-  To extend classwork in practical ways i.e. providing opportunities for investigation, observation & recording skills.
-  To engage children in learning in a cross curricular manner.
-  To encourage a healthy lifestyle by encouraging physical activity.
-  To generate pride & excitement about what they are producing.
-  To equip the children for the demands of Post Primary School.

TIME ALLOWANCE

Home learning should not be too onerous & neither should it disrupt family life. If parents have any concerns about the home learning that has been set, they should not hesitate in contacting their child's class teacher. Although there is now no statutory set time allocation for homework, we feel that the previous allocations (see below) are a guideline for parents.

YEAR	RECOMMENDED TIME	ENCOURAGED TIME
YEAR 4	25-30 Minutes	<i>(20mins Physical Activity)</i>
YEAR 5	30-40 Minutes	<i>(20mins Physical Activity)</i>
YEAR 6	45-55 Minutes	<i>(30mins Physical Activity)</i>
YEAR 7	50-60 Minutes	<i>(30mins Physical Activity)</i>

PARENTAL ROLE

As a parent your influence & support is a vital ingredient in the educational development of your child. You may find the following points useful when guiding your child through his/her homework.

- A. Discuss, encourage & check but **NEVER do the homework for the child.**
- B. Should the child experience difficulty with a homework please indicate this on the child's book. The teacher will then be aware of the problem & respond appropriately.
- C. Ensure that you **ALWAYS** sign the homework &, if necessary, record the length of time required to complete the written assignment.
- D. Reading is a vital component of the learning process throughout the seven years at Primary School.
Encourage your child to read on a daily basis.

Positive & Active Involvement at all times is recommended

- E. When spelling & number facts are incorporated into the homework please supervise & ensure the learning of these.
- F. Encourage your child to produce a best effort on the first attempt & to take responsibility for the quality of his/her own work.
- G. Some homeworks will be of a practical nature. These are no less important than written homeworks. Please support & encourage your child with such tasks.






Occasionally, at the discretion of the teacher, written homeworks may be replaced or incorporated with practical/investigational type tasks, art activities, ICT tasks etc.

When setting homeworks we would strive to ensure that the task is appropriate to the child's ability.

There may be times e.g. (seasonal occasions) when homework will not be set.

THE 'IDEAL' HOME-LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The child's ability to settle quickly is obviously important. The following suggestions might be helpful: -

-  The child should be encouraged to take a responsible approach to work & belongings. The child should be organised in relation to the homework task set. The homework should be understood & the information, books & equipment necessary for its completion should be at hand.
-  The child needs a table or a desk that is at a comfortable height for working.
-  It is important that books are kept clean & a sense of pride taken in good presentation.
-  Quietness is essential & homework should be complete free from distractions of television & young children, if at all possible.
-  Homework should not be done too late at night. If possible, it is best to set aside a regular time for homework.

Positive & Active Involvement at all times is recommended

STRANDTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL HOME LEARNING

YEAR GROUP	LANGUAGE & LITERACY	MATHEMATICS & NUMERACY	CURRICULUM BASED	PHYSICAL ACTIVITY	RECOMMENDED TIME
YEAR 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ One written homework per week (Literacy/Maths)✎ Independent home reading.✎ Spellings / spelling revision	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ One written homework per week (Literacy/Maths)✎ Number Facts & revision	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ Curriculum based homework every 3rd week. <p><i>This can be focused on Music, Art, ICT, Technology, Research, Observations, etc.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ Children will be encouraged to participate in at least 20 mins physical activity per week.	25-30 minutes
					Encouraged 20 minutes physical activity per day
					<i>This is the maximum time that we advise to be spent on homework.</i>
ONE WRITTEN HOMEWORK PER WEEK. MATHS, LITERACY & CONNECTED WILL BE ROTATED					
YEAR 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ Two written homework per week (Literacy OR Maths OR Curr. Based)✎ Reading homework✎ Spelling homework & revision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ Two written homework per week (Literacy OR Maths OR Curr. Based)✎ Number Facts & revision	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ Curriculum based homework rotated with Literacy & Maths. <p><i>This can be focused on Music, Art, ICT, Technology, Research, Observations, etc.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ Children will be encouraged to participate in at least 20 mins physical activity per week.	30-40 minutes
					Encouraged 20 minutes physical activity per day
					<i>This is the maximum time that we advise to be spent on homework.</i>
TWO WRITTEN HOMEWORKS PER WEEK. MATHS, LITERACY & CONNECTED HOMEWORK WILL BE ROTATED					
YEAR 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ One written Literacy homework per week.✎ Reading homework✎ Spelling homework & revision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ One written Maths homework per week.✎ Number Facts & revision	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ Curriculum based homework. <p><i>This can be focused on Music, Art, ICT, Technology, Research, Observations, etc.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ Children will be encouraged to participate in at least 30 mins physical activity per week.	45 -55 minutes
					Encouraged 30 minutes physical activity per day
					<i>This is the maximum time that we advise to be spent on homework.</i>
YEAR 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ One written Literacy homework per week.✎ Reading homework✎ Spelling homework & revision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ One written Maths homework per week.✎ Number Facts & revision	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ Curriculum based homework. <p><i>This can be focused on Music, Art, ICT, Technology, Research, Observations, etc.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✎ Children will be encouraged to participate in at least 30 mins physical activity per week.	50-60 minutes
					Encouraged 30 minutes physical activity per day
					<i>This is the maximum time that we advise to be spent on homework.</i>

Parental Support:

- 😊 Share in reading with your child,
- 😊 Check retention of spellings
- 😊 Check learned number facts
- 😊 Encourage some independent working throughout homework
- 😊 Sign & date written homework & homework diary each night.

