

Homework Policy Limerick East Educate Together School

Homework Policy

Homework is part of a continuous learning process and in Limerick East Educate Together School we regard homework as important for the following reasons:

- It allows pupils the opportunity to revisit, revise and consolidate skills learned in class.
- It can help pupils to make more rapid progress in learning.
- It can involve parents 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 crucial to success at secondary school and in later life.

It also enables the teacher:

- To monitor pupil progress with a view to improving standards.
- To provide pupils and parents with clear and relevant feedback.
- To suggest strategies for improvement and goals to be achieved.
- To seek extra resources to support those pupils in need of additional help or additional challenge.
- Homework, along with schoolwork, teacher observation, projects, portfolios, diagnostic and standardised tests all lay the foundation for providing an overall picture of a pupil's progress and development as they move through the school.

All pupils are assigned homework appropriate to their age and class level. Some of their tasks may be designed to consolidate the child's classroom learning experiences, while other tasks will encourage the child to work independently and with initiative. Reading practice is a priority for all children.

The time required for homework varies by class as follows:

- Junior and Senior Infants: There is no formal, written homework at this level. However we encourage parents to spend time, talking, listening and reading to/with their children as language is important for developing reading and maths as well as being vital for children's social and emotional development. We also send home work folders with updates of work being done with children and recommend that parents talk to children about activities being covered in class.
- First and second classes: 20-30 minutes.
- Third and fourth classes: 30-45 minutes.
- Fifth and Sixth classes: 45-60 minutes.

These times are guidelines; some children may complete the work in less time. However, if your child is taking more than the guideline time, please confer with the teacher. (Guideline time refers only to time spent on-task.)

Homework is assigned Monday to Thursday, (September-June) leaving the weekend free for family activities. However, pupils may be asked to complete unfinished work at weekends. Homework missed due to illness does not normally have to be completed.

Children are encouraged to read for pleasure every day and parents are encouraged to read to younger children every day.

The nature of the homework assigned will sometimes change during such times as: holidays, Book Week, Parent-Teacher meetings; occasionally pupils may be given a night off (or a Homework Pass) as a reward for a special effort made by the class or by an individual.

Every effort should be made to keep up with homework if children are taken out of school for holidays.

We ask parents to support our Homework policy by:

- Providing space and time for their child to do their homework. Turn off the television and radio until the homework is finished.
- Checking that the homework is completed and signing the homework journal.
- Discussing interesting aspects of the work assigned.
- Giving children opportunities to read for pleasure, either reading themselves or being read to.
- Using the method suggested by the teacher for the learning of spellings and tables.
- Regularly checking memorisation of tables.
- Informing teachers of problems when they arise.

Monitoring Homework:

- Teachers will check homework on a daily basis. However as children get older and learn to work independently, some items of homework are checked less often or may be corrected by peers. Self-checking and editing will be encouraged.
- Some items of homework (and class work) may be checked by children themselves under the direction of the teacher. This can be a useful part of the learning process for children.

Date	28.03.17
Chairperson	Jane Harris
Principal	Michael Quealy