Homework Policy

School Address*: Our Lady of Good Counsel School,*

Innishmore, Ballincollig, Cork. P31FH22

Phone number: ***0214878370***

Roll number: ***18208A***

School Patron: ***ThBrothers of Charity*****Principal:** ***Aisling Power*****.**

Deputy Principal: ***Nollaig Moynihan.***

Chairperson: ***Harold Brooks***

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Date of Original Adoption

2004

Review History

- December 2007
- January 2016 (Chairperson change)
- September 2017 (Chairperson change)
- November 2026 (Policy revision)

Rationale

Homework provides an opportunity for pupils to reinforce skills learned in school, develop independence and responsibility, and strengthen the partnership between home and school. In our school, homework is assigned in a manner that recognises the diverse learning, developmental, and personal needs of pupils.

Aims

The aims of homework are:

- To support and enhance pupil learning.
- To reinforce work completed in class.
- To encourage the development of independent learning skills.
- To strengthen communication and links between home and school.
- To provide opportunities for parents/guardians to engage with and support their child's learning.
- To enable pupils to practise and consolidate skills in a meaningful and achievable way.

Guidelines

General Principles

- Homework may be assigned to all pupils in both the Junior and Senior School, where appropriate to their individual learning needs and abilities.
- Homework will normally be assigned from Monday to Thursday.
- Homework will generally not be assigned at weekends, during school holidays, on birthdays, or on special occasions unless deemed beneficial by the class teacher.
- Homework will be differentiated to reflect the individual needs, abilities, and educational programmes of pupils.
- A balance of activities may be included, such as:
    - Reading
    - Oral language activities
    - Practical life skills
    - Communication exercises
    - Numeracy activities
    - Written work, where appropriate
    - Revision of class-based learning

Role of Parents/Guardians

Parents/guardians are encouraged to:

- Provide a suitable time and environment for homework completion.
- Offer support, encouragement, and supervision as required.
- Communicate with the class teacher if difficulties arise regarding homework.
- Sign or acknowledge homework records where applicable.

Role of Teachers

Teachers will:

- Ensure homework tasks are clearly explained and appropriate to pupils' abilities.
- Differentiate homework to meet individual learning needs.
- Monitor and review homework regularly.

- Communicate with parents/guardians regarding homework expectations and concerns.

Pupils Experiencing Difficulties

The school recognises that some pupils may experience significant challenges in completing homework.

Where homework causes undue stress, anxiety, or difficulties at home, parents/guardians may discuss concerns with the class teacher. Adjustments, reductions, alternative activities, or temporary exemptions from homework may be agreed in the best interests of the pupil.

Homework should support learning and wellbeing and should not become a source of significant distress for pupils or families.

Equality and Inclusion

Homework practices will reflect the school's commitment to equality, inclusion, and the individual educational needs of all pupils. Reasonable accommodations will be made for pupils with additional educational, communication, sensory, behavioural, or medical needs.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed by the Principal, staff, and Board of Management on a regular basis, or as required by changes in educational practice or school circumstances.

Ratified by the Board of Management: September 2017

Chairperson: Harold Brooks