

Scartleigh N.S.



SALEEN

Scartleigh National School

SALEEN, CLOYNE, CO. CORK.

021 4652094

secretary@scartleigh.com

www.scartleigh.com

# School Homework Policy

## **Introductory Statement**

The teaching staff of Scartleigh National School formulated this policy. The policy was formulated on the 8th of December 2005 and reviewed in May 2018.

## **Vision Statement**

In Scartleigh National School homework is given to consolidate learning in key curricular areas. Priority is given to key curricular areas, especially literacy and numeracy. Homework is also used in the school to foster home links in subjects such as SPHE and religion.

## **Aims of Homework**

- To reinforce and consolidate learning.
- To promote habitual independent learning.
- To communicate with parents.
- To raise awareness among parents of classroom learning.
- To promote self-discipline as a life skill.
- To provide parents with a home-school link.

Diary / homework sheet / actual homework to be signed each night on completion of work.

Reading, learning and oral work is as important as written work. Please listen to your child read and examine spellings and tables.

How often is homework given?

Homework is given on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, but not on Fridays. There are two exceptions:

if homework has been neglected during the week

in senior classes some homework is undertaken some weekends.

Please note homework may sometimes be given during the week or at the weekend if a child has not completed homework, had not made an honest effort or presented untidy work.

## **Time Allocation of Homework**

Subjects & Time

**Junior / Senior Infants - less than 20 minutes**

Showing work done in school, reading activity, Religion, P.E etc.

**1st & 2nd Classes 20 - 30 mins.**

Reading, spellings, tables, maths every night, Religion, P.E, etc

**3rd & 4th Classes 30 – 40 minutes**

Reading, spellings, tables, maths, writing activity every night. Religion(once a week), P.E, etc

**5th & 6th Classes 45 – 50 minutes**

As for 3rd & 4th Classes and other subjects depending on work done in class.

Reading, spellings, tables and maths. Religion, P.E, etc

Suggestion: One night a week homework to be reduced and a practical activity/life skill given e.g. empty the dishwasher, make their lunch, make their bed, go for a walk.

These times are a guide. Each child will work at his / her own rate.

**Reading**

Importance of Reading

The school views reading as the single most important homework activity. Children should be reading at home on a daily basis. Younger children should be read to as they progress to become independent readers.

**Paired Reading**

Paired reading begins in infants. Gradually the child picks up on words and begins to read. The adult helps with the reading process. Ultimately the child will read to the adult. During a paired reading session the parent fills in on words the child may not recognise in a relaxed and friendly manner. The emphasis in paired reading is on fun and nurturing a love of reading.

Children should do written homework themselves and parents should only help when the child has difficulty.

**Ideal Homework Conditions**

Homework should always be done free from distractions such as television, radio and music.

Child should be seated at a table with ample work space and appropriate lighting.

A parent should always be on hand to assist the child.

All homework both written and oral should be checked by a parent.

The ideal time for homework is early evening, preferably when a parent is available to assist.

Parents must encourage children to work independently. Errors in homework are acceptable and are useful for the teacher in assessing learning. Parents should encourage neat presentation and maximum effort. In certain circumstances individual children may require differentiated homework. In these cases the child's teacher will meet with the parents to discuss the individual needs of their child.

Parents should try to help their children with homework by:  
providing them with a suitable place and time to do their homework  
to prevent interruptions or distractions, like T.V. or excessive noise/interruptions from brothers/sisters/friends (children)  
parental involvement is essential to your child's success in homework.  
Starting homework sooner rather than later in the evening is advisable.

### **Difficulties with Homework**

If a child is finding any aspect of homework stressful or difficult the parent should inform the class teacher by recording the problem immediately in the homework journal. The parents may make an appointment with the teacher to discuss the problem.

This Homework Policy will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

This Homework Policy was adopted by the Board of Management on 13/09/2022

Signed: Thomas Casey

Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: Denise O'Do

Principal/Secretary to the B of M

Date: 13/09/2022

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