

Kilgarvan Central School

Homework Policy

Introduction:

The Board of Management of Kilgarvan Central School recognises that homework is an integral link in the chain of communication between school and home. Parents can monitor the progress of their children through continual reference to homework diaries and liaison with class teachers.

Aims:

The broad aims of this homework policy are as follows

- To promote the use of homework to consolidate and reinforce the learning and work being covered in school.
- To keep parents in touch and involved in their child's/children's education.
- To encourage and foster a habit of independent study.

Homework assigned will be:

- An integral part of the subject being taught and given, in order to consolidate work being covered in class.
- Thoroughly prepared and explained.
- Consistent in both content and amount.

Expectations of Pupils

It is expected that pupils will:

- Return their homework on time.
- Complete and present their work to the best of their ability.
- Appreciate that reading / learning tasks are just as important as written tasks.
- Bring a note to school explaining if a task is incomplete.

Homework Guidelines for Parents

- Establish a set routine and time for your child to complete his/her homework.
- Supervise children's homework. Check that tasks are completed and sign homework journal nightly.
- Foster a positive view of homework as an activity which is integral and beneficial to your child's education.
- Forward a note to the class teacher if homework has not been completed for any reason.
- If homework is causing stress or worry, parents are encouraged to convey these anxieties to their child's teacher. This may be done using the child's homework journal or via email directly to the class teacher.
- If your child is spending significantly more time than the times suggested below for the completion of homework, allow them to finish at the allotted time and inform the class teacher.

Suggested Times for Homework

Homework will be assigned from Monday to Thursday.

Class	Recommended Time
Infant Classes	10 – 15 mins
1 st and 2 nd Classes	20 – 30 mins
3 rd and 4 th Classes	30 – 40 mins
5 th and 6 th Classes	40 – 60 mins

- The above times are based on the time teachers would expect a child of average ability to complete homework tasks. Some children may complete tasks more quickly than others. However, it is important to note that work completed carelessly is not work completed satisfactorily.
- Pupils who receive additional support in school may need to have additional accommodations put in place for homework such as recording answers and sending the audio to the teacher instead of writing all answers
- When calculating the amount of time spent on homework, please be mindful not to include time spent at any activity which is not homework related.
- It should be noted that time spent on homework may vary a little from day to day and at different times of the year.
- A homework off pass may be given on special occasions, or as a reward. Also, at different times during the year different types of homework may be assigned one night per week such as active homework, reading for pleasure, maths games / challenges, helping at home, random acts of kindness. These should be recorded and their completion signed by parents in the usual way.
- As a school we are mindful that children take part in a wide range of activities outside of school which are important for their growth and development, so we will endeavour to adopt a consistent, predictable pattern of homework, keeping within the time limits above. Teachers may use their discretion and give less homework on some occasions where children are travelling significant distances to matches / sports activities in the evenings
- Where children are absent for an extended period due to illness the school staff will endeavour to support them in keeping up with their classwork. However, if a child is absent for any other reason, it is our policy not to assign or correct work in these circumstances.

How can parents/guardians help to create a positive homework habit?

- Establish a set routine for the completion of homework
- Provide a quiet space for your child to complete their homework tasks free from distractions.
- Encourage your child to complete tasks independently whenever possible, to foster self- esteem and confidence.
- Ensure your child has all the necessary materials to complete their tasks
- If your child becomes frustrated, encourage them to take a short break and return to the task
- Be supportive and encouraging
- Praise your child for completing their homework

This Policy was ratified by the Board of Management of Kilgarvan Central School on 14th April 2024 and will be reviewed in the 2027 /2028 school year.

Signed: *Jeremiah McCarthy* Chairperson, Board of Management

Date: April 2024