



Powerstown Educate Together

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Powerstown Educate Together National School

Homework Policy

This policy has been formulated by Powerstown ETNS to assist teachers assign appropriate homework for their pupils and to assist parents and pupils complete homework timely and accurately.

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Policy Introduction

At Powerstown Educate Together, we believe that homework is an important aspect of pupil learning and development. Homework helps pupils reinforce what they have learned in class and provides opportunities for independent learning/revision.

Our homework policy is designed to ensure that homework is meaningful, relevant, and manageable for all pupils.

This policy was written by the principal in conjunction with the teaching staff, reflecting parent and child feedback. The homework policy of Powerstown ETNS works in tandem with all other existing policies of the school.

Purpose of Homework

Homework will be assigned to reinforce and extend classroom learning, develop good study habits, and provide opportunities for independent learning. Homework is set as a way of informing and involving parents in their child's learning process, as well as enjoying activities and having fun.

Homework Journals

Homework assignments will be recorded in the pupil's homework journal (1st to 6th class) and in a homework folder for Junior and Senior Infants. The journal should act as a form of communication between the home and the class. It is important to inform the class teacher if a child is having difficulty with homework or if homework has not been completed on a specific day due to unavoidable circumstances. Parents of Junior/Senior Infant pupils can add a note to their child's homework folder or make a note on the homework sheet.

Frequency

Homework will be assigned on a daily/weekly basis and may include longer-term projects. Homework is expected to be completed and returned to the class teacher for correction on the day/date specified by the class teacher.

Content

Homework assignments should be related to classwork and should support pupil learning in a meaningful way. Homework is set at a class level and all children should be able to complete what they have been assigned with minimal support. The time spent on homework will vary child to child, however, homework should be manageable for pupils and should not exceed the recommended time.

Teachers may offer support in finding useful resources for extension activities (problem solving websites, book suggestions, etc.). However, due to class commitments, teachers will be unable to correct any additional homework.

Suggested Time Allocation

Junior Infants <i>Homework should not exceed 10 minutes</i>	Senior Infants <i>Homework should not exceed 15 minutes</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oral Language Homework (on topic)• Phonics• Sight Words• Handwriting• Shared Reading (reading for enjoyment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oral Language homework (On topic)• Phonics• Sight words• Shared Reading• Maths• Handwriting• Active Homework

1st & 2nd Class <i>Homework should not exceed 30 minutes</i>	3rd & 4th Class <i>Homework should not exceed 45 minutes</i>
Maths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Maths • Tables Literacy (English/Gaeilge) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral Language • Reading for enjoyment • Vocabulary SESE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Work PE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active homework 	Maths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Maths • Tables Literacy (English/Gaeilge) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading for enjoyment • Writing activity • Vocabulary - English/Gaeilge SESE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Work PE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active homework
5th & 6th Class <i>Homework should not exceed 1 hour</i>	
Maths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Maths • Tables Literacy (English/Gaeilge) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading for enjoyment • Writing activity • Vocabulary - English/Gaeilge SESE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Work PE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active homework 	

Reading for Enjoyment

All pupils are encouraged to read in their own time every day. From an early age they will bring home their library books or class novels. The school hopes that parent and child will share the excitement of reading books together. This is an important part of homework, it should be valued.

Support

Pupils who need extra help or support with their homework should talk to their teacher. Parents can also support their child's learning by providing a quiet workspace and by being available to answer questions or to provide guidance.

Homework assignments in English, Mathematics and Gaeilge are given on a regular basis with particular emphasis on vocabulary development and tables. Once again parental help with the learning of spelling and number patterns is much valued and has a noticeable impact on children's learning.

Feedback

Teachers will provide feedback on homework to support pupil learning and understanding. Teachers will prioritise relevant and necessary learning opportunities vs correcting every mistake in work.

Late/missing homework

If a child has not completed all their homework, a note should be provided by their parent, otherwise sanctions may apply. When implementing this policy, there must be leeway. A teacher will always use his/her discretion when implementing a sanction, taking due regard for issues surrounding the matter, the regularity of such an occurrence etc.

A child may be given constructive extra homework. Please see the Code of Behaviour for details.

Homework and Well Being

This homework policy reflects the value we place as a school on family time, hobbies and play whilst also acknowledging the need to foster expectations of high achievement, providing opportunities for success in homework.

Guidelines for Parents

The school encourages the active involvement of parents in enabling their child to take responsibility and work independently. Parents are encouraged to:

- Establish a set routine and time for your child to do his/her homework.
- Supervise children's homework.
- Help your child choose an appropriate study location – a quiet place, a desk or table for written work or a comfortable chair for reading.
- Be a resource for your child, but don't hover over him or her with constant advice or do their work for your son/daughter. Remember that sometimes the best help is a word of encouragement, or an acknowledgement of the effort that is being made – a smile, a hug.
- Forward a note to the teacher if homework has not been completed due to unforeseen circumstances.
- Remember that time devoted to reading and learning is as important as written work.
- If homework causes stress or worry to the child, parents are encouraged to convey these anxieties to the class teacher.

Conclusion

At Powerstown Educate Together, we believe that homework is a valuable tool for pupil learning and development. Our homework policy is designed to ensure that

homework is meaningful, relevant, and manageable for all pupils. We encourage pupils, parents, and teachers to work together to support pupil learning and success.

Implementation, Ratification & Review

This policy came into operation on 31st August 2012.

It was reviewed in May 2023. It will be reviewed in 3 years.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Chairperson

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Principal