



The Burrow School

Homework Policy

Reviewed: October 2024

Rev. Philip Heak
Chairperson

Homework Policy

Introductory Statement

The following policy has been drafted by a core group of staff through consultation with all staff members and reference to class letters sent to parents.

Rationale

To ensure that there is consistency between classes, clarity among staff and a gradual progression in homework up along the school.

Aims

To ensure parents, teachers and pupils are aware of the expectations with regard to homework.

Class Guidelines

Homework is set by class teacher for Monday to Wednesday. Whole school homework is set for Thursdays.

Recording of homework:

Junior and Senior Infants – each child has a zip folder for their homework books. Homework activities are dated in the books each night and placed in the homework folder along with reader, copies and phonics required.

1st, 2nd and 3rd – teacher will print out homework for the week (on A6 size) which is given to each child. An A3 print out with the homework and spellings will be displayed on the board.

4th, 5th and 6th classes – will take down their homework daily in a copy/notebook.

Time spent on homework:

Junior Infants- 15 minutes

- Homework for Junior Infants begins in October.
- From October to Christmas there is a phonic and written piece of homework.
- After February mid-term they will also receive words, a reader and written exercises.

Senior Infants – 15 minutes

- One written exercise and reading words and phonics
- Monday – Thursday (inclusive)
- Yellow copy – writing sentences (1 or 2 a night) after Christmas.

1st Class – 20 minutes

- Spellings (Four each night).
- English reading every night.
- Tables (Three each night).
- One written exercise.

2nd Class – 25 minutes

- Spellings – ten English Spellings a week
- English and Irish reading every night.
- Tables
- Four Irish spellings a week
- Three written exercises (inc. English and Maths)

3rd Class – 30 minutes

- Spellings – 9 English and 9 Irish over the week
- English reading every night.
- Irish Reading once a week
- Tables – after Halloween
- Maths challenge (one test) each night – two on Wednesday
- One written exercise Monday and Tuesday

4th Class – 35-40 minutes

- Irish reading each night.
- English reading each night.
- Spellings – 15 English spellings a week
- Spellings - 10 Irish spellings a week.
- Tables
- One Maths exercise each night
- One written exercise each night

5th Class 45 – 50 minutes

- English Reading
- Irish Reading
- English Spelling - 1 block and 2 activities each night
- Irish Spellings – 12 spellings a week and activities
- Tables
- Irish Verbs
- Maths – shadow book
- Occasional project work

6th Class 45 – 50 minutes

- Irish spellings – 12
- English spellings – 28
- English reading – every night
- Irish reading – every night
- Irish / English spelling activities

- Tables / verbs
- Occasional project
- Maths exercise each night

A whole school activity will be set every Thursday e.g. Art. Siblings can complete this activity together.

Success Criteria

This policy will positively affect teaching and learning in the school through ensuring that there is consistency between classes.

The implementation of this policy ensures that there is a natural progression between classes.

The effectiveness of this policy can be assessed through feed back from parents and the pupils' performances in class.

Homework Guidelines

- All homework both written and learning should be checked every night to ensure it has been completed to a satisfactory level.
- If homework for some reason is incomplete, a note needs to be given to the class teacher.
- If there is a difficulty with regard to homework, please inform the class teacher or posted on Aladdin
- Good homework practises are necessary to instil good study habits from an early age.
- Homework should ideally be completed
 1. early in the day.
 2. in a quiet, disturbance free atmosphere.
- Homework is necessary to revise and reinforce work done during class time.

Also please note the school's policy if written Homework is not done -

1. If there is a letter/note explaining why work is undone - the child is excused that homework assignment.
2. If work is not done and no written explanation received - the child completes the homework assignment the next night or at another time during the school day.

3. If a Text Book is left in school - the child can complete homework during "Prep Time" (8.35 a.m. - 8.55 a.m.) (but not too often!)
4. If the written assignment has been left at home - this explanation will be accepted for one day but unless the work is received the following morning, the child will complete the written assignment during playtime/prep time.

No written homework will be given in June - only reading work where necessary.

Roles and Responsibility

The whole policy will be implemented by staff members.

Responsibility for review

The responsibility for organising the review lies with the Principal.