****

**Polasaí Obair bhaile *Homework Policy***

Is scoil lán Ghaeilge í Gaelscoil Phortlaoise agus is í an Ghaeilge teanga chumarsáide agus gnó na scoile. Tá an Ghaeilge mar theanga mhúinte agus foghlama i ngach ábhar seachas an Béarla.

Beidh an etos seo go mór san áireamh nuair a thugtar obair bhaile.

**Cén fáth obair bhaile a thabhairt?**

***Why give homework?***

* Chun dul siar a dhéanamh ar obair scoile an pháiste.

 *To revise and to reinforce what the child learns during the day.*

* Chun nasc a chur ar fáil idir an múinteoir agus an páiste.

 *To provide a link between home and school and to encourage parental involvement in the*

 *education of their children.*

* Chun forbairt a dhéanamh ar díriú isteach agus ar étos oibre an pháiste.

 *To develop a child’s concentration skills, thinking skills and to develop a work ethic.*

* Ba chóir d’obair bhaile a bheith so-dhéanta ag an bpáiste go neamhspleách, i.e is dul siar é ar obair atá déanta cheana féin. De ghnáth bíonn sé ullmhaithe ag an múinteoir sa rang. Uaireanta, leis na hard ranganna tá sé ann chun dúshlan a ofráil do chumas na bpáistí agus tugann sé deiseanna do chruthaíocht.

*Homework is meant to be achievable by a child independently, i.e. it provides an opportunity to practise work already done. It helps to assess pupil’s understanding of work done in class. It is normally prepared by the teacher in class. However, sometimes with senior classes, some homework is designed to challenge children’s ability, to provide opportunities for creativity and to foster good homework practices in prepartion for secondary school.*

* Ealaítear ar pháistí obair-bhaile a dhéanamh chomh maith agus is féidir leo, sin an méid.

 *Children are expected to do their homework to the best of their individual ability – no*

 *more, no less.*

**Cé chomh minic a thugtar obair bhaile?**

***How often is homework given?***

Tugtar obair bhaile ón Luan go Déardaoin ach ní ar an Aoine. Tá trí eisceacht le seo-

1. Má dhéantar faillíocht leis an obair bhaile i rith na seachtaine.

2. In ard-ranganna bíonn obair thionscnaimh ar siúl ag na páistí.

3. Uaireanta tugtar obair bhaile deireadh seachtaine do pháistí a bhriseann rialacha na scoile.

* Uaireanta tugtar oíche shaor ó obair bhaile do na páistí mar chomóradh nó céiliúradh ar ocáid speisialta.
* Tosaíonn obair bhaile do Naíonáin Shóisearacha i mí Deireadh Fómhair.
* Ní thógtar obair bhaile scríofa i Mí Meitheamh.

*Homework is given from Monday to Thursday, but not on Fridays.*

*There are three exceptions:*

*1. If homework has been neglected during the week without satisfactory reason or not done to a satisfactory standard.*

*2. In senior classes some project work is undertaken at weekends.*

*3. As a consequence for breaking school rules.*

* *Sometimes at the discretion of the class teacher or the principal, children are given “homework off” as a treat or as acknowledgment of some special occasion.*
* *Homework begins for Junior Infant classes in October.*
* *Written homework is not given in June, in order to allow for extra outdoor activities and for revision.*

**Céard e ábhar an obair bhaile?**

***What is the content of homework?***

• Go hideálach is meascán é an obair bhaile idir tascanna léitheoireachta, foghlama agus scríofa.

*Ideally homework will contain a balance between reading tasks, learning tasks and written tasks. Matching, number work and other mathematical work, penmanship/written work, word boxes/reading and colouring are examples of homework given to infant classes.*

• Níl an meascán seo so-dhéanta i gcónaí agus athraíonn sé ó lá go lá. Ach ba chóir a thuiscint go bhfuil am obair bhaile atá tugtha do léitheoireacht agus foghlaim chomh tábhachtach l’obair scríofa.

*This balance is not always possible and can vary considerably from day to day. However, it should be noted that homework time devoted to reading and learning is as important as written work.*

• Ba chóir go mbeadh léitheoireacht, scríbhneoireacht, Mata, litriú (rang 1-6) táblaí, nithe le foghlaim de ghlan mheabhair, tarraingt/dathú, eolas/nithe a bhailiú agus obair a tosnaíodh sa rang a chríochnú mar chuid den obair-bhaile go minic.

*Homework will regularly contain reading, spellings (1st-6th class), tables, written work, pieces to be “learned by heart”, drawing / colouring, collecting information / items and finishing work started in class. However, this list isn't exhaustive, as teachers may use other methods to assign and to differentiate homework for/to children with special educational needs*.

• Uaireanta braitheann na paistí gur am amú é an foghlaim de ghlanmheabhair. Bíonn ról lárnach a imirt ag na tuismitheóirí, trí bheith ag éisteacht le léitheoireacht agus nithe atá le foghlaim

*Children often feel that reading and “learning by heart” is not real homework. Parents can play an important role in listening to reading and items to be learned, ensuring this work is done well. This kind of work enhances the retention skills / learning skills necessary for lifelong study.*

**Cén fráma ama ó rang go rang?**

***How much (time) homework?***

The following are guidelines for time spent at homework. It is important to remember that as every child is different the length of time taken to complete homework may differ also. Class homework, given by the teaching staff is pitched at the average child’s ability. However, homework is differentiated when necessary in order to suit a child’s learning ability. Time spent will vary from day to day and also from the beginning to the end of the school year. It is important to remember that it is the quality and not the quantity of homework that matters. The following are general guidelines only:

 **Junior Infants- Senior Infants - Up to 20 minutes**

 **Rang 1- Rang 2 - Up to 30 minutes**

 **Rang 3- Rang 4 - Up to 45 minutes**

 **Rang 5- Rang 6 - Up to 1 hour**

Teachers may communicate directly (either verbally or through online platforms) with the parents regarding what homework is required. Gaelscoil Phortlaoise’s ‘Polsaí Obair Bhaile’ requires that all children from Rang a Dó to Rang a Sé have a school homework journal where they record their homework neatly and accurately. The staff greatly appreciate your co-operation in ensuring that your child completes his / her homework in a neat fashion.

**Obair bhaile-Ardáin ar líne**

***Online Platforms for homework***

Gaelscoil Phortlaoise use avariety of online platforms with regards to homework, depending on the class level. These include:

-Class Dojo

-Google Classroom

-Aladdin

**Ionchur na dTuistí/Cosantóirí**

***Parental/Guardian Involvement***

Educational research shows that a child’s learning greatly improves when the parents/guardians are involved in the learning process. When a child sees their parent’s/guardian’s involvement they understand the importance and value of learning and usually progresses better. Homework time provides parents with the opportunity to become involved in and participate more fully in their child’s education, as well as making them aware of how their child is actually progressing at school.

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., gaming consoles, phones, tablets or other children.

- Children should do written homework themselves with parental/guardian supervision.

- If a child has difficulty with homework, the parents/guardians should help the child to overcome the difficulty with further explanation or examples, but not by actually doing the homework for the child. In the case of a child experiencing ongoing difficulty with homework, please make an appointment to see your child’s teacher. Parents/guardians should use the teaching methods being practiced in school, especially in the area of mathematics. It is best to leave the work undone, as opposed to causing confusion by using a different method.

• Shared reading is not homework in the regular sense and it is simply meant to be an enjoyable exercise between parent and child. If it’s not enjoyable, shared reading should not be done.

**Cé chomh** **minic a sheiceálann na tuistí é?**

***How often should parents/guardians monitor homework?***

• Parents/guardians should check and sign a child’s homework journal every evening.

• The pupil’s journal is an important record of the child’s homework. It is also a valuable means of communication between parents and teachers.

• Please check that your child records its homework neatly in the correct page and ticks each item of homework when completed.

**Cé chomh minic a dhéanann na múinteoirí monatóireacht ar obair bhaile?**

***How often do teachers monitor homework?***

• Ideally teachers like to check homework on a daily basis. However, it is not always possible to check each child’s homework journal every day.

• As children get older and learn to work independently, some items of homework are checked less often. e.g. every second day or once per week.

 • Teacher will at various times direct their correcting to specific aspects of the child’s work eg grammar, spelling. Not every mistake in a child’s work will generally be corrected.

• Some items of homework (and classwork) may be checked by children themselves under the direction of the teacher. This can be a useful part of the learning process. It promotes responsibility and self esteem in the children.

**Cén t-am é a dhéanamh?**

***When should homework be done?***

*•* Each family situation is different – one or both parents working, child minders, creche, after school activities etc. Ideally, homework should be done soon after school. However, some children need a break before starting homework. It is not advisable that homework be left until morning time before school.

**Obair Bhaile gan a bheith déanta**

***Incomplete Homework***

-When homework is not done without a satisfactory reason or without due effort or if it is in an untidy manner, the child will be asked to finish or to correct or to re-do the work that night or at the weekend.

-When homework is not done on a regular basis the teacher will inform the parents by putting a note in the homework diary, by phone or through the online learning platform being used in the class. The teacher will keep an account of all such notes.

-If the situation does not improve the matter is then brought to the attention of the Principal who will contact the parent/guardian(s) and arrange a meeting to discuss how the matter can be resolved.

**Ag dul i dteagmháil le múinteoirí**

***When should parents/guardians contact a teacher with regard to homework?***

-When the child is unable to do or to complete the homework due to difficulties with the work.

-When parents are worried about the child’s work/progress.

-When the child is unable to do the homework due to family circumstances/difficulties.

-At the parent/teacher meetings.

**Cuimhnigh**

***Remember***

If homework is a stressful experience between parent/guardian and child, something is wrong! This leads to poor learning and defeats the whole purpose. Should this happen on a regular basis, please contact the class teacher.

**Athbhreithniú**

***Review***

Déanadh athbhreithniú ar an bPolasaí seo ag cruinniú foirne agus déineadh é a faomhadh ag an mBord Bainistíochta ar an 26ú Aibreán 2023