Gaelscoil Phortlaoise,
Cnoc an tSamhraidh,
Bother an tSráidbhaile,
Co. Laoise.

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Polasaí Obair Bhaile / Homework Policy

Cén fáth obair bhaile a thabhairt? ***Why give homework?***

- Chun dul siar a dhéanamh ar obair scoile an pháiste/*To re-inforce what the child learns during the day.*

- Chun nasc a chur ar fail idir an múinteoir agus an páiste/*To provide a link between teacher and parent.*

- Chun forbairt a dhéanamh ar díriu isteach agus ar étos oibre an pháiste./*To develop a child's concentration skills and develop a work ethic.*

- Ba choir 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 is normally prepared by the teacher in class. However, sometimes with senior classes, some homework is designed to challenge children's ability and provide opportunities for creativity.*

- Eilítear ar pháistí obair-bhaile a dheanamh chomh maith agus is feidir 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 an obair bhaile/ How often is homework given?

- Tugtar obair bhaile Dé Luain, Dé Máirt, Dé Céadaoin, Deardaoin ach ní ar an Aoine. Ta trí eisceacht le seo/*Homework is given on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays but not on Fridays. There are three exceptions:*

1. Má dhéantar faillíocht leis an obair-bhaile i rith na seachtaine/*if homework has been neglected during the week*

2. In ard-ranganna bíonn obair thionscnaimh ar siúl ag na páistí/ *in senior classes some project work is undertaken at weekends.*

3. Uaireanta tugtar obair bhaile deireadh seachtaine do pháistí a bhriseann rialacha na scoile, i bpáirt leis an gCód Smachta/ *As punishment for breaking school rules, in line with Code of Behaviour. Please note extra homework may sometimes be given during the week or at the weekend if a child has not done homework, made a suitable effort or presented untidy work.*

.- Uaireanta tugtar oíche shaor ó obair bhaile do na páistí mar chomóradh nó céiliúradh ar ocáid speisialta/ *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.*

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.*

• 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 tosnaiodh sa rang a chríochnú mar chuid den obair-bhaile go minic. *Homework will regularly contain reading, spellings, tables, written work, pieces to be "learned by heart", drawing / colouring, collecting information / items and finishing work started in class.*

• Uaireanta braitheann na paistí gur am amú é an foghlaim de ghlanmheabhair. Bíonn ról larnach 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. Different children will complete the same homework in different lengths of time. Homework, given by teachers, is pitched at the average child's 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	**-**	**Suas go 10 nóiméad/ minutes**
Senior Infants	**-**	**Up to 10 minutes**
Rang 1	**-**	**Up to 15 minutes**
Rang 2	**-**	**Up to 20 minutes**
Rang 3	**-**	**Up to 30 minutes**
Rang 4	**-**	**Up to 40 minutes**
Rang 5	**-**	**Up to 50 minutes**
Rang 6	**-**	**Up to 1 hour**

Homework is given from Monday to Thursday. Normally there is no homework on weekends or in the month of June. However, children in middle and senior classes may sometimes be required to work independently on projects at weekends.

Infant teachers communicate directly (either verbally or written) with the parents regarding what homework is required. Gaelscoil Phortlaoise's 'Polsaí Obair Bhaile' requires that all children from 'rang a haon' to 'rang a sé' have a homework journal where they record their homework neatly. The staff greatly appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that your child completes his / her homework in a neat fashion.

An mó cabhair a thugann Tuistí?/How much help should parents give?

• *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 other children*

• *Children should do written homework themselves with parent supervision.*

• *If a child has difficulty with homework, the parents 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.*

• *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.*

Cá **minic a sheiceálann na tuistí é?/How often should parents monitor homework?**

• *Parents 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.*

Cá minic a cheartítear an Obair Bhaile?/ How often do teachers monitor homework/

• *Ideally teachers like to check homework on a daily basis. However, with large class numbers 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.*

• *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 for children.*

Cén t-am e a dheanamh?When should homework be done?

• *Each family situation is different – one or both parents working, child minders, etc. Ideally, homework should be done before any television is watched soon after school while your child is still fresh. However, some children need a break before starting homework. Homework should never be left until morning time before school.*

Ionchur na dTuistí/Parental Involvement

The revised curriculum plays huge emphasis on parental involvement in the education of their children. 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.

Cuimhnigh/Remember

If homework is a stressful experience between parent 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.

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Cuireadh an polasaí seo le chéile ag foireann na Gaelscoile Phortlaoise i _____

agus déineadh e a faomhadh ag an mBord Bainistiochta go gairid ina dhiaidh.