BellurganNationalSchool

Principal: Mr. Dermot McCoy.

Bellurgan,
Co. Louth.

Roll No.
16249E

HomeworkPolicy

Bellurgan National School's homework policyfacilitates the co-operation of teachers and parents in the provision and completion of a pupil's homework tasks. It encourages the involvement of parents and allows them to see the progression of homework through the school from infants to the senior classes. It underpins a uniformity and cohesive approach to homework.

Rationale

a) Further strengthening of home-school links.
b) Reinforcing the learning experienced by the child during the school day.
c) Ensuring clarity as to the recommended time to be spent on homework.

Aims and Objectives of the policy

- To consolidate learning through reinforcement of class work.
- To enable the children develop a sense of responsibility and independence.
- To enhance self-esteem through the provision of a work menu that is doable.
- To foster self-discipline and study skills.
- To promote consistency and a uniform approach to homework across all classes.

How often is homework given?

- Homework is given on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays but not on Fridays.
- 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

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- Please note extra homework may be sometime be given during the week if a child has not done homework, made a suitable effort or presented untidy work.

Content

It is school policy to assign appropriate class-related levels of homework as an important reinforcement in the learning process. Good study habits are fostered, independent learning is promoted and self-discipline is developed.

Junior / Senior Infants: - 0 – 15 minutes

Reading and/or occasional worksheets. The school attempts to maintain a balancebetween oral, reading and written work. Paired reading is encouraged in infant classes.

Rang a hAon: - 0 – 20 minutes

Reading, worksheet, sums, spellings.

Rang a Dó: - 0 – 20 minutes

Reading, maths, spellings, sentences, worksheets.

Rang a Trí: - 0 – 30 minutes

Tables, maths, spellings, reading, worksheets.

Rang a Ceathar: - 0 – 30 minutes

Maths, oral, spellings, sentences, topical work.

Rang a Cuíg: - 0 – 40 minutes

Maths, Gaeilge, English, miscellaneous.

Rang a Sé: - 0 – 75 minutes

Maths, English, Gaeilge, topical work.

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- Homework is generally based on class related work or work already covered in class. It should contain a balance between reading, learning and writing. Time devoted to reading and learning is as important as written work.
- The assigned homework is explained to children in advance. The different levels of the pupils are also taken into account.
- Homework is not linked to behaviour but occasionally child/ren are rewarded with reduced homework if they have worked /behaved well (LINK Reward Chart Rang 5 / 6).
- The Learning Support Teachers will occasionally give homework to their allocated pupils but only as a reinforcement of class work. Reading is routinely given as homework and should be accorded priority consideration.
- If homework causes stress or worry to the child, parents are encouraged to convey these anxieties to the class teacher. If homework cannot be completed on a particular night, parents are asked to forward a written note.
- Teachers check homework on a daily basis. Some homework may be self correcting. Children who do not complete homework satisfactorily may be required to re do this work during lunch break. Parents are advised to supervise and check homework nightly.
- All children have a homework diary which parents are required to sign. The homework diary acts as a means of communication between class teacher and parent.

Parental Monitoring

- Provide suitable comfortable facilities.
- Remove distractions – T.V. younger siblings etc
- Help child overcome difficulties through explanation.
- Parents should not do the homework for their children.
- Send a note to the class teacher if a problem arises. This can be done through the homework diary.
- Check and sign homework diaries.
- Notify the class teacher if time spent on homework exceeds the recommended time.
- As children tire towards late evening, encourage the completion of homework as early as possible.

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- Discourage morning homework/
- Parents should have a stock of rulers, pencils, rubbers, table books etc. available should the need arise.

Success Criteria

- Teaching and learning being tailored with pupil's needs.
- Pupil's class work showing improvement.
- Having a consistent and continuous two way communication between school and home.
- Teachers, pupils and parents being comfortable with the process and practice of completing homework.

Ratification and Communication

This policy will be in operation in the school year 2011/2012, having been ratified by Staff and BOM. Every teacher will be provided with a copy of this policy for their files.

Date of next policy review: September 2017