



Homework Policy

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Approved by	Board of Management
Ratified on	20th of January 2025
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The school day starts at 8:15 am until 12:55 pm for Junior and Senior Infants, and from 8:15 am until 1:55 pm for all other classes.

Policy Introduction

Children are given homework that supports and complements the work carried out at school. The homework policy of Ballinteer Educate Together National School works in tandem with all other existing policies of the school.

The type of homework and amount will vary from time to time and from class to class but will increase as the child progresses through the school. Individual class teachers will correspond with parents/guardians outlining details of homework. Parents/guardians are informed at the class meeting at the start of the school year how much homework to expect and what form it will take.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to help their children develop a positive approach to homework by setting aside a time in the day when children can complete their homework tasks. A quiet space, free from distractions, enables children to focus for a required time each day, and, in turn, promotes the ability to think clearly about assigned tasks and complete these tasks in a satisfying way. Independent reading, and a love of reading, is fostered in a quiet space during a regularly-scheduled time.

Homework is set as a way of informing and involving parents/guardians in their child's learning process.

All children are encouraged to read in their own time every day. From an early age they will bring home their reading books; the school hopes that parent/guardian and child will share the excitement of reading books together.

Parents/guardians are also encouraged to spend time supporting children to develop life skills by encouraging them to read signs in the environment e.g. labels, street signs etc as well as writing letters, stories, notes, lists and familiarising themselves with everyday maths. This is supported and reinforced by staff during school time.

Homework assignments in English and Mathematics are given on a regular basis. Once again parental support with literacy and numeracy assignments is much valued and has a noticeable impact on children's learning.

Recommended Homework

Homework Plan - To be given on a weekly basis		
Class	Topics	Time
JI /SI	Reading	10-15 minutes
1st / 2nd	Reading, Spelling, Tables	Up to 30 minutes
3rd / 4th	Reading, Spelling, Tables, Mental Maths	30 – 45 minutes
5th / 6th	Reading, Spelling, Tables, Mental Maths, Litriú, Project Work	Up to 1 hour

- Homework assignments may involve research, writing, reading or learning and should be completed in the assigned time frame.
- The standard of any written homework assignment should show the child trying their best and should be presented to the highest standard appropriate to the child's ability.
- Learning homework is just as important as written assignments and adequate time should be devoted to learning assignments.
- A quiet space and a set amount of time are the optimum conditions for homework.
- Learning support homework, where applicable, will be prioritised over class homework.
- It is important to inform the class teacher if a child is having difficulty with homework or if homework has not been completed within the allocated time frame. This is done by emailing info@ballinteerets.ie for the attention of the child's class teacher.
- Reading with a parent/guardian on a daily basis is encouraged.

Ratification

This policy was ratified on the date below. The policy will be distributed to all individuals involved in the consultation process of its development. It will be available electronically on the school website for access at any time. It will be reviewed as necessary but no later than 2028.

Ratified by the Board of Management

Chairperson: Maeve McCarthy

Date: 20th of January 2025



Ruth Brennan
Principal



Maeve McCarthy
Chairperson