

**GORT NATIONALSCHOOL**

**GORT**

**CO. GALWAY**

**POLICY**

**ON**

**HOMEWORK**

## **POLICY ON HOMEWORK**

<b><u>SCHOOL:</u></b>	Gort National School
<b><u>ADDRESS:</u></b>	Gort, Co. Galway
<b><u>CATEGORY:</u></b>	Fourteen Teacher School
<b><u>TELEPHONE NO.:</u></b>	091- 631627
<b><u>INTRODUCTION:</u></b>	

This Policy is rooted in our Mission Statement and in the aims of our school, fostering in the pupil a spirit of self-reliance, independence, co-operation and responsibility and providing them with skills for life long learning.

### **RATIONALE FOR AND AIMS OF THIS POLICY**

- Regular homework is a valuable aspect of the learning process and contributes to the development of sound study skills.
- It develops the child's concentration skills and develops a work ethic.
- It consolidates and supplements the work done in class and promotes independent learning and creativity.
- It enhances the academic achievements of the student and helps to evaluate progress.
- It creates a valuable home/school link.
- It encourages parents to take an interest in and share responsibility for their child's work and progress.

### **POLICY**

- ❖ The amount of homework will be relevant to class.
- ❖ The amount of homework will be specified by the class teacher.
- ❖ Homework set will be meaningful and purposeful to the work of the class or some future work.
- ❖ Homework is meant to be achievable by a child.
- ❖ Some homework is designed to challenge child's ability and to provide opportunity for creativity.

- ❖ Children are expected to do homework to the best of their individual ability.
- ❖ Students will be required to do homework and present it properly.
- ❖ Homework will be corrected, feedback given, and used to consolidate various points.
- ❖ Encouragement and praise will be given when appropriate.
- ❖ Homework will consist of oral and written assignments.
- ❖ Homework will regularly contain reading, spelling, tables, written work, pieces to be “learned by heart”
- ❖ Occasionally drawing/colouring, collecting information and project work will be contained in the homework
- ❖ Children will be helped to develop study skills – use of time etc.
- ❖ Parents will be informed when children consistently fail to do homework.
- ❖ Good quality homework will be required, encouraged and praised.
- ❖ Performance and effectiveness of homework will be discussed and assessed by staff at staff meetings.
- ❖ Each child from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes will have a homework diary in which each day’s homework is written.
- ❖ Junior & Senior Infant teachers will have an appropriate system to ensure that the parents know the homework assigned to their children.
- ❖ There will be homework assigned from Monday to Thursday inclusive.
- ❖ Policy will be reviewed at regular intervals.

### **AMOUNT OF TIME SPENT ON HOMEWORK**

The amount of time spent on homework was agreed by teaching staff.

**Times are as follows.**

**Junior Infants: 10 – 15 minutes**

**This gives the parents a chance to see and encourage their children's efforts at school.**

**Senior Infants: 15 – 20 minutes**

**This helps parents to reinforce what has been done in school and gives the children much needed confidence in their own ability.**

**First Class: 20 – 30 minutes**

**Second Class 30 – 40 minutes**

**Third Class**

**Fourth Class 40 – 60 minutes**

**Fifth Class**

**Sixth Class 60 – 90 minutes**

**These are suggested times but the completion of homework may take more or less time depending on the following circumstances:**

- **Concentration of child**
  - **Pace at which a child writes**
  - **Distractions and interruptions**
- Extra time spent is at the parent's discretion.**

**The amount of time spent at Shared Reading and Personal Reading (Library Books etc.) is over and above the amount of time allocated for homework for each class.**

## **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Board of Management.**

- **To approve policy**
- **To ratify policy**
- **To ensure policy is evaluated from time to time**

### **Teaching Staff**

- **To implement policy, review homework assignments and provide feedback to students**
- **To keep records of homework set**

### **Parents/Guardians**

- **To support the school policy**
- **To provide suitable conditions for homework**
- **To see that the suggested amount of time is spent on the homework**
- **To encourage child to work independently**
- **To praise their efforts but not to do their work for them**
- **To supervise homework, this is essential especially in the junior classes so as to foster good practices**
- **To listen to children's reading and to ask their spellings and tables as this is invaluable**

### **Pupils**

- **To complete homework and present it properly**
- **To be proud of their work**

### **ASSESSMENT OF POLICY**

- **Goals are attained**
- **Good quality homework being presented**
- **Parents and pupils are satisfied with the effectiveness of the policy**
- **Reduction in stress/pressure on pupils in relation to homework**
- **Teachers in conjunction with parents will monitor the implementation of this policy**
- **Policy will be reviewed by teaching staff**

**This Policy was ratified by Board of Management on \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Fr. Gearóid Ó Gríofa (Chairperson Board of Management)**