



## Our Lady of Good Counsel BNS

### Homework Policy

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#### **Introductory Statement**

This policy was reviewed in light of practical and beneficial practises that were introduced as a result of Covid 19 restrictions. Staff were surveyed and a working group was established to review this policy. Parents, children from 3rd to 6th and teachers were surveyed. Feedback was used to guide us in our decision making. BoM input was also a part of the process.

#### **Rationale**

The need to amend the homework policy can be attributed to:

- Ensuring clarity as to the recommended time to be spent on homework;
- Standardise homework given across class levels;
- Developing good routines for independent learning;
- Establishing a balance between oral, reading and written homework;
- Feedback from Parents responding to the Parent questionnaire as part of the review process.

#### **Aims**

- To consolidate work taught in the class;
- To develop skills and self discipline that will be of benefit to children in order to enhance learning;
- To promote consistency and a similar approach to homework across all classes;
- To encourage children to become independent learners and to revise and reinforce work completed during the day;
- To strengthen links and communication between home and school.

#### **Homework Routines**

The following are occasions when children may be exempt from homework:

- Birthday (or nearest day);
- Fridays;
- Special rewards / class treat/ Homework pass;
- Holiday times;
- Request of Principal / Priest etc.
- Line of the Week

- The month of June - Children will only have reading and tables, no written homework

The following is an outline of what each class level will be asked to complete on a daily basis for homework:

<b>Junior Infants</b>	<b>Senior Infants</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Second</b>
Sound/tricky word	Sound/tricky word	Tricky Word	
Reading	Reading	Guided Reading	Guided Reading
Shadow Book x2	Shadow Book x2	Mental Maths x4	Maths/tables Games
Wellbeing Wednesday	Wellbeing Wednesday	Wellbeing Wednesday	Wellbeing Wednesday
Handwriting x2	Handwriting x2	Tables	Tables
		Spellings-look cover spell write check at home	Spellings-look cover spell write check at home

All children from Junior Infants to Second will use Seesaw as a means of communicating homework with parents. Seesaw is a digital portfolio tool which allows teachers and pupils to store their work in an online space and gain feedback from their teacher.

For those attending after school, teachers will print out the homework.

As part of our Wellbeing Framework, homework on the First Wednesday of the month will be “Wellbeing Wednesday”. This is the only homework the boys will be asked to complete.

<b>Third</b>	<b>Fourth</b>	<b>Fifth</b>	<b>Sixth</b>
Reading (log/novel)	Reading (log/novel)	Reading (log/novel)	Reading(log/novel)
Tables (games/frenzy)	Tables (games /frenzy)	Tables (games/frenzy)	Tables (games/frenzy)
Eng Sp  Workbook  Look, cover, spell write check sheet at home	Eng Sp  Workbook  Look, cover, spell write check sheet at home	Eng Sp  Workbook  Look, cover, spell write check sheet at home	Eng Sp  Workbook  Look, cover, spell write check sheet at home
Gaeilge Sp (5)  Look Cover Spell Write check at home –no test	Gaeilge Sp (5)  Look Cover Spell Write check at home –no test	Gaeilge Sp (10)  <i>assessed</i>	Gaeilge Sp (10)  <i>assessed</i>
		Foclóir	Foclóir
Wed Wellbeing	Wed Wellbeing	Wed Wellbeing	Wed Wellbeing
Tables/maths games	Tables/maths games/Mental Maths Q	Tables/maths games/Mental Maths Q	Maths topic work
		English Written Task x2	English Written Task x2

All children from 3rd to 6th will use a homework journal. Parents are requested to sign the journal each evening.

As part of our Wellbeing Framework, homework on the First Wednesday of the month will be “Wellbeing Wednesday”. This is the only homework the boys will be asked to complete.

On occasion tasks may include projects, research, hands-on activities etc.  
Assigned homework is explained to children in advance.

While homework is not linked to behaviour, occasionally in cases of misbehaviour it may be necessary to assign weekend homework. See Code of Behaviour.  
Each class operates their own class system. A record may be kept if homework is not done or poorly completed. A note will go home if homework is not consistent. Children may be asked to repeat the homework or complete work not done. Parents should use the homework journal to communicate with teachers.

### **Role of teachers**

- To set homework in class;
- to communicate homework effectively to parents;
- To inform parents if homework is not being done on a regular basis;
- To differentiate homework for SEN children;
- To correct and evaluate homework on a regular basis taking into account time constraints in class.

### **Role of parents**

- To encourage and assist children with their homework;
- To establish a good routine for homework;
- To stop the child after a reasonable time and inform teacher of any difficulty;
- To participate in the policy review process.

### **Role of pupils**

- To complete homework given;
- To inform teacher of any difficulty;
- To have homework signed by a parent/guardian.

### **Success Criteria**

Feedback from pupils, parents and teachers will inform us of the success of the policy.

Useful information for parents of Primary School children can be found on the following website: [www.ncca.ie](http://www.ncca.ie)

Review: This policy will be reviewed in 2025/2026.

Dissemination:

A copy of this policy will be put on the website and a hard copy will be available to Parents on request.

Implementation is immediate.

Ratification:

This policy has been ratified by the Board of Management at its meeting.

**Signed :..... Date: Monday, January 16th, 2023**

**Michael J. Hunt  
Chairperson B.O.M.**

**Signed :..... Date: Monday, January 16th, 2023**

**Michelle Cotterell  
Principal.**