Homework Policy

The following is the Homework Policy in Scoil an Linbh Íosa. Homework is given to:

1} re-enforce what the child learns during the school day
2} provide a link between teacher and parent
3} develop a child's concentration skills and work ethic.

The nature of the assignment, and the age/ability level of the child, will be the chief determining factors when a teacher assigns homework to their class. Teachers may assign differentiated homework to a pupil if the class homework is beyond their level of ability or if it is not challenging enough. The following guidelines will be taken into account when assigning homework:

- In this school homework will be assigned each night Monday to Thursday. Homework will not be given at weekends if the class teacher is satisfied that work has been done conscientiously during the week. There may be an exception to this in the senior classes where a pupil needs to complete homework that was not completed Mon-Thurs. Sometimes at the discretion of the class teacher/senior management, children are given 'homework off' as a treat or as an acknowledgement of a special occasion.

- The average amount of homework given in each class shall be as follows:

Junior and Senior Infants	-	up to 20 minutes
Rang 1& Rang 2	-	20 -30 minutes
Rang 3 & Rang 4	-	30-40 minutes
Rang 5 & Rang 6	-	40-60 minutes

- Homework will ideally contain a balance between reading tasks, learning tasks, written tasks and active tasks. It may be of three types i.e.

  1} Drill and exercise in the core subjects. Study in these subjects can take many forms: arithmetic problems, studying and writing word lists/word study, learning tables, memorising poems, practising penmanship, completing grammar exercises etc.

  2} Activities which supplement school instruction in the non-core subjects.

  3} Active homework once a week.

  Support teachers will have a special programme of work for those children requiring additional support. This programme of work will be arranged with the child's parents to suit individual needs.

- Homework must never be an introduction to unfamiliar material. For this reason, homework will not be assigned to children who are absent, except in exceptional circumstances.

- In order that parents be acquainted with the homework their children have to do, homework journals shall be used in each class {in the infant classes homework sheets will be used}. The children will write down their homework each evening before dismissal and shall have it signed by a parent upon completion. If homework is undone the class teacher shall write note in the homework journal to that effect, that note to be signed by a parent. If homework is repeatedly undone the child shall be referred to the Principal/Deputy Principal. (See Code of Discipline).

- If parents have a query about their child's homework, they will be encouraged to make contact with their child's teacher to discuss same.

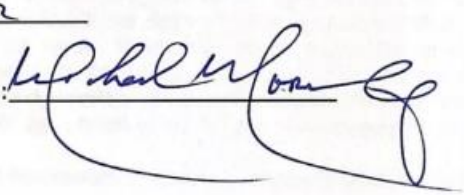
- Our school has a 'No Homework Policy' during Christmas week and in the month of June.

- Class teachers at each class level will collaborate as much as possible in the assigning of homework.

- In order to address our pupils' health, wellbeing and fitness levels, we will assign 'Active Homework' once a week.

This homework policy was drawn up collaboratively by the staff in Scoil an Linbh Íosa in June 2022 and was ratified by the Board of Management. It will be shared with our parent body via our school website.

Ratified by the Board of Management on:

Date: 23/09/2022

Chairperson's Signature: