

Stewartstown Primary School's



Homework Policy

Homework Rationale

The setting, completing and marking of homework is an important aspect of our school life. We look at homework very positively for a number of reasons.

Homework gives you as the parents an opportunity;

- To follow the work your child is undertaking at school and to note progression and make your own assessment of their performance
- To work with your child in a supportive role showing that you are interested and care about their school work
- To offer advice, encouragement and praise to your child when tasks are completed satisfactorily

Homework gives us, the staff the opportunity;

- To provide further practice towards understanding of new concepts introduced in school and reinforce areas already covered
- To assess how each child is coping with the learning that is going on in the class room, by setting specific tasks to be completed at home with little assistance from parents
- To offer praise, advice and encouragement to each child provided they have attempted the set tasks

Homework is a vital tool for strengthening continuity between home and school.

Doing Homework

Children always concentrate on their tasks better if they begin them early in the evening after school is over. They benefit from having a quiet space (with the television switched off) to sort themselves out and start their work. They should be able to do most of their homework without any adult intervention (reading will require adult involvement). If you find that your child is struggling, please feel free to help as best you can without actually doing it for them. If the problems persist, please inform the teacher either by telephoning them or by writing a letter. Do not let the child become upset if they cannot complete a task ask them to attempt it and do their best.

Homework will usually be set each night from Monday to Thursday. No written homework will be given at weekends but the children will be encouraged to read extra over this time.

The following table will give you an indication (this is a guide and will not be exactly the same each night) as to how long your child will be expected to remain on task to complete their homework. It does not include time spent gathering items to begin the homework nor any little breaks to watch television or chat!

PRIMARY 7 PRIMARY 6 PRIMARY 5	40-60 minutes to include reading, spellings, tables and either maths or English on alternate nights
PRIMARY 4	20-30 minutes to include reading and spellings and some other activity
PRIMARY 3	15-20 minutes to include reading and spellings and some other activity
PRIMARY 2	15 minutes to include reading and on occasions another task
PRIMARY 1	10 - 15 minutes maximum to include reading work and on occasions jigsaws/games which are phonic or mathematically based