

LONGFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL HOMEWORK POLICY STATEMENT

PURPOSE:

- To view homework as an extension of the programs offered in the classroom, and in this context should be used to reinforce and complement material already taught at school.

BROAD GUIDELINES:

- Homework should be a positive experience and a sharing of education between the home and school.
- Homework should be relevant to the work being done in the classroom.
- Homework should reinforce skills being taught at the time.
- Homework should help develop sound study habits.
- Homework should be frequent and of a short duration.
- Teachers should have high but realistic work expectations of pupils completing homework tasks.
- Homework should be balanced with a range of recreational, family and cultural activities.
- Homework should be interesting, challenging and, where appropriate, open ended.
- Homework should be assessed by teachers with feedback and support provided.

IMPLEMENTATION:

- Parents should be advised of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and be provided with a copy of the school's homework policy
- Upper primary students are required to use homework diaries. Diaries provide a means of regular communication between parents and the school.
- Teachers should encourage pupil commitment to completion of assigned work by due dates, by not accepting late submissions. (Unless prior arrangements have been made or good reason is provided.)
- Pupils who submit sub-standard work with regard to their own ability should be asked to re-submit assignments.
- The teacher will follow-up frequent non-completion of assigned work (set homework sheets etc.).
- Completed set homework will be acknowledged by the appropriate teacher and returned to the child.
- Parent support is vital for the successful implementation of this program.
- While expectations will vary from teacher to teacher as to the amount and nature of work set, the following is suggested as a guide:

In the Early Years (Prep to Year 4) homework should not be seen as a chore.

Homework will:

- Enable the extension of class work by practising skills or gathering extra information or materials when required.
- Mainly consist of daily reading to, with, and by parents/ carers or older siblings. This will generally not exceed 30 minutes a day and will not be set on weekends or during holidays.

In the Middle Years (Years 5 to 9). Homework:

- Should include daily independent reading
- May include extension of class work, projects and assignments, essays and research.

This will generally range from 30-45 minutes a day for Year 5 & 6 pupils.