



**Dunshaughlin Community
National School**

Homework Policy

1. Introduction

Homework has been a tradition of primary schools over the years. However, there is no evidence of the academic impact of homework for children under eleven years of age. A cornerstone of the ethos of our school, is excellence in education. In striving for excellence, we believe that excessive homework does little to support the learning of our pupils. In many cases, it exerts additional stress and frustration on the pupils and supervising adults. It can reduce the time available for other activities, and result in a negative disposition towards in learning.

2. Rationale

We endeavour to provide a positive, fun learning environment of the children in our school. The demands of the school day can be very tiring on young children. Sitting down to do additional schoolwork in the afternoons and evenings is counterproductive to what the children want and need to do. As a school, we would encourage the children to engage in daily movement-based activities to help strength the children's physical skills. Research identifies that children who have well-developed physical skills achieve higher academic scores. We would also encourage the children to pursue areas of personal interest outside of school hours.

3. Class Based Work

We are aware that some children enjoy learning and completing additional work at home. To support these children, each class teacher will devise their own approaches to homework. This may include some reading practice or project-based work from a homework menu etc. The children are not obliged to complete this work but if they do, they can submit it to their teacher for feedback.

4. Future Developments

As our school develops, we will revisit our homework policy considering the research supporting the value of homework for children in the senior classes of primary school education.

BOM Ratification

LMETB School/College:	Dunshaughlin CNS
Date of Board of Management Meeting:	22/5/24
Policy:	Homework Policy
Proposed By:	Frank Gallogly
Seconded By:	Laura Murphy
Signed by Chairperson BOM:	Cllr. Maria Murphy (nominated chairperson in absence of Chairperson)