Kilsheelan NS

Kilsheelan, Clonmel, Co.Tipperary
Roll No: 18486F
www.kilsheelanns.com

Homework Policy

Children in Kilsheelan NS are assigned homework for the following reasons:

- To reinforce what the child learns during the day
- To provide a link between teacher and parent.
- To develop a child's concentration skills and develop a work ethic.
- Homework is meant to be achievable by a child i.e. it provides an opportunity to practice work already done. It is normally prepared by a teacher in class. However, sometimes with senior classes, some homework is designed to challenge children's ability and provide opportunities for creativity.
- Children are expected to do their homework to the best of their ability – no more, no less.

Common sense will dictate to a teacher how much homework a child can be expected to do. The nature of the assignment and the age of the child will be the chief determining factors. An average a first class child can happily spend an hour and a half on an assignment to collect leaves, insects or pictures, but is only capable of doing, at most, twenty minutes of arithmetic drill.

In Kilsheelan NS, homework will be assigned each night Monday to Thursday. No homework is assigned at weekends. However, if children are assigned a project by their class teacher and they wish to complete it over a weekend, it is at their own discretion to do so.

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

Infants	20	minutes approx.
Rang 1	20	minutes approx.
Rang 2	20-30	minutes approx.
Rang 3	30-40	minutes approx.
Rang 4	40-45	minutes approx.
Rang 5	45-60	minutes approx.
Rang 6	60	minutes approx.

Homework will contain a balance between reading tasks, learning tasks and written tasks

- This balance is not always possible and can vary considerably from day to day. However it should be noted that homework time devoted to reading and learning is as important as written work.
- Homework will regularly contain reading, spellings, tables, written work, pieces to be 'learned by heart', drawing/colouring, collecting information/items and finishing work started in class.
- Children often feel that reading and 'learning by heart' is not real homework. Parents can play an important role in listening to reading and items to be learned ensuring this work is done well.

Provided that children have a good comprehension of the content, there is nothing wrong with rote learning (tables, grammar rules, mnemonics) and memorising (poems, songs, religion questions).
In order that parents be acquainted with the homework which their children have to do, homework journals shall be used in each room. The children will write down their homework each day and shall have it signed by a parent upon completion. If homework is incomplete the class teacher shall write a signed note in the homework journal to that effect, that note to be countersigned by a parent that night. If homework is repeatedly incomplete the child shall be referred to the Principal. (See Code of Discipline).

Parents should try to help their children with homework by

- Providing them with a suitable place and time to do their homework. - Preventing interruptions or distractions, e.g. T.V
- Children should do written homework themselves and parents should only help when the child has difficulty.
- If a child has difficulty with homework, the parents should help the child overcome the difficulty with further explanations or examples, but not by actually doing the homework for the child. In this case the parent should write a note to the teacher explaining the problem

Differentiated Homework
Children with learning difficulties learn better through using concrete materials and by having relatively short assignments with repetition of simple facts and numerous illustrations. Because they are likely to require considerable individual assistance with homework it is important to set standards of achievement at the child's level. Such children will not be assigned the same level or volume of homework as the rest of the class, but rather be given differentiated homework more suited to their level of ability.

Incomplete Homework
If for some reason, a child is unable to complete their homework, a note must be written in the homework journal informing the teacher of same. In the event of incomplete homework without a note, a child may be asked to complete their homework at break

This policy has been ratified and reviewed by the Board of Management, Kilsheelan NS

Review
This policy has been reviewed and updated in September 2025. This policy will be reviewed every three years or as the need arises as per DES guidelines and circulars.

Signed: _____ Date: 24/09/25
Chairperson Board of Management

Signed: _____ Date: 24th September 2025
Principal