



Homework Policy

Date Policy Adopted: June 2017

	Date of Next Review by
Headteacher/SLT	May 2018
Approval	Curriculum and Standards Committee

Introduction

Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning. For example, a parent talking to their child about their learning and the world around them, or reading them a story before bed, is helping with their homework.

Rationale for homework

Homework is a very important part of their child's education and can add much to a child's development. Children benefit from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and in school.

One of the aims of our school is to encourage children to develop as independent learners. We believe that homework is very important in developing this skill.

Homework also plays an important part in raising a child's attainment; they will do better in school if they are able to practise key skills, such as reading and times tables, outside the normal school day.

We believe that whilst homework is important, it should not be so onerous at primary school age, so as to prevent them from partaking in out-of-school clubs and activities, spending time with family, or resting and relaxing.

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- To enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
- To promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each pupils' learning;
- To enable all aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth;
- To consolidate and reinforce learning which has taken place in school and practise key skills;
- To help pupils develop good work habits for the future.

Types of homework

The school will set a variety of types of homework, including maths and writing activities, worksheets, research and small projects.

In addition to this, all children are expected to read every night (either online or printed books). The reading should be recorded in the reading diary and signed by an adult at least 3 times a week. Parents of older children, who may read to themselves, should discuss their reading with them to support their understanding of what they have read.

Spellings will be given to pupils in years 1-6 at an appropriate level for the children; they will be asked to use the words in context. As a general rule, there will be 5-10 spellings per week.

All pupils need to know their number bonds to 10 and 100, and by the end of Year 4, all should know their times tables to 12 x 12. Practising number bonds (pairs of numbers which add up to 10, 20 or 100) and times tables at home regularly is absolutely vital for all children.

Pupils may also be set online activities for Maths, such as 'Mathletics'. If pupils do not have access to the internet at home, they will be given the opportunity to complete the activities at school.

Amount of homework

We increase the amount of homework as the children move through the school; this is so that younger children are not overloaded and older children are more prepared for the amount of homework they receive in secondary school.

Teachers will give pupils a reasonable amount of time to complete their homework.

Holiday Homework

Children (from Reception onwards) may be set homework over the school holidays. They may be given tasks to complete or skills to practise, specific to their level of development.

Marking of homework

Homework that is given in on time will be marked. Late homework may not be marked, but children will be expected to complete it in their break or lunchtime, or at home.

Marked homework will be sent home for parents to look at whenever possible.

The role of parents

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their children to complete the homework tasks that are set, but not to complete them for them.

Parents can support their child by providing a suitable environment, without distractions (e.g. television) in which their child can complete their homework.

If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should contact the child's class teacher and discuss it with them as soon after the homework is set as possible.

This policy has been reviewed and no individual or group in the school community is disadvantaged by the policy and processes.

Homework timetable

Reception	Reading – Continuous provision Phonics to practise (relevant stage)
Y1 / Y2	Reading – Continuous provision. Spellings weekly – tested on Friday. Phonics screening words. Maths practice book weekly.
KS2	Reading – Reading homework Mon/Wed/Fri to ensure reading being completed regularly. Retrieval question to show understanding and high level question for those that want to challenge themselves
Y3 / Y4	Rainbow reading challenge book – half termly. Weekly spelling. Maths practice book weekly.
Y5 / Y6	Weekly spellings. Maths practice book.