



# Harting CofE Primary School

## Homework Policy and Guidelines

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Owner: Curriculum Committee

Reviewers: Full Governor Body

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# Homework Policy & Guidelines

## Aims

We have high expectations and aim to provide:

- Excellence in teaching and learning to give each child the best opportunity for success;
- Current research on homework, at primary level, indicates that parental support of children is more important to children's successes than formal homework (<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/teaching-learning-toolkit/homework-primary/>)

It is therefore our policy that any homework set at this school should:

- Allow practice, where it is needed, of skills learned in the classroom;
- Involve parents and other adults in pupils' work;
- Encourage pupils to develop the practice of independent study;
- Develop the notion of, and belief that, learning is a life-long activity and can take place outside school.

For Key Stage 2 children, who are unable to complete work at home, an opportunity may be provided for children to have access to the internet, if needed.

It is important to note that as part of the homework policy the younger child may be asked to find things of interest, to find things out, or to bring items in for display. Older children may be asked to do some research as part of their curriculum topic theme and/or for science. Parents will be notified of the topics to be covered at the start of each half-term.

## Reading

Reading at home and school is recorded in the home-school contact book until the children are in Beacon class.

Older children are encouraged to record books they have read at home themselves. They will also be encouraged to write a brief comment or review, at times.

Children should be encouraged to read a range of books. To promote the idea that a range of texts is read, all children have a library ticket and access to books from the library.

Reading should include: children reading to siblings, parents and other adults and parents reading to children. In addition, **discussion of books with your child can be very beneficial**. Please provide your children with other experiences of texts eg bed-time stories, audio books, etc

## Maths

Children benefit from plenty of rehearsal of number facts ie to 10, then 20 and later 100. Examples of this include pairs of numbers which make totals eg  $1+9=10$ ,  $2+8=10$  and so on. Learning these by heart helps with number work. Time tables practice and the learning of division facts aid the speed of maths work. Real-life experiences help problem solving. Areas to support at home include reading the time, weighing, money and fractions with food.

## **Feedback**

Verbal feedback, regarding homework, will be given as appropriate.

## **Developing Organisational and Independence Skills**

The older children in Downlands and all children in Torberry and Beacon should spend time each evening preparing what they need for the next day, e.g. recorders, PE equipment. We believe these skills are important and that children should take an increasing responsibility for their own daily routine.

## **Additional Activities**

From time to time children may be asked to carry out an additional piece of research related to the topic or science work.

If parents take children on holiday during school time, homework cannot always be set. However, in these circumstances, we encourage parents to keep up the daily routines, supporting reading and perhaps keeping a diary or following some individual research.

At times, some children may need additional support for underlying difficulties. On these occasions guidance will be given by teaching staff as appropriate.

## **Communication**

Children are given information, regarding suggestions of things to practice at home, which is age appropriate. This may be verbal or written.

## **Homework Overview**

### **Rother**

- Daily reading
- Common words to practise reading
- 'Wow work' to share interests, home activities and practise skills

### **Warren**

- Daily reading
- Own learning from home shared with school (to embed or demonstrate skills) recorded in 'Wow book'

### **Downlands**

- Daily reading
- Own learning from home shared with school (to embed or demonstrate skills) recorded in 'Wow book'
- Increasing organisation of work & equipment for next day

### **Torberry & Beacon**

- Daily reading
- Reading comprehension or maths challenge alternate weeks (in preparation for y7 and as assessment of embedded skills)
- Own learning from home shared with school (to embed or demonstrate skills), recorded in 'Wow book'
- Organisation of work & equipment for next day