

St. Agnes ACE Academy

Homework Policy January 2017

Rationale

At St. Agnes Academy we continually strive to raise the standards of achievement of all our pupils. As part of this drive we would ask parents to support their children in a regular programme of homework set by the school.

'Homework' refers to any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time either on their own or with parents or carers.

Aim and objectives

Through this policy we aim to:-

- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- Ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility.
- Ensure the needs of the individual pupil are taken into account.
- Ensure parents/guardians have a clear understanding about expectations of the school, pupils and themselves.
- Extend and support pupils' learning through reinforcement and revision.
- Provide opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work in partnership.
- Provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences.
- Prepare children in Year 6 for secondary transfer.

FOUNDATION STAGE and KEY STAGE 1

The development of a partnership between school and parents/carers and their active involvement in their children's learning is the key purpose. This also helps parents to understand the learning that takes place in school.

Short activities of different kinds – simple games, learning spellings, number facts, key words and reading together - all provide the opportunity for our young children to talk about what they are learning to an interested adult and to practise key skills in a supportive environment.

Foundation

Reading – 10 minutes a day listening to your child to develop decoding ability

Regular reading to your child to develop vocabulary and language patterns

Phonics task – 10 minutes

St. Agnes ACE Academy

Homework Policy January 2017

KEY STAGE 1 and KEY STAGE 2

Year 1

Reading – 10 minutes a day

A longer task for 15 minutes

Phonics/ number facts (optional practice)

Years 2

Reading – 15 minutes a day

A longer task for 20 minutes

Spelling/ number facts (optional practice)

KEY STAGE 2

Year 3

Reading – 15/20 minutes a day

A longer task for 25 minutes

Spelling/ number facts (optional practice)

Year 4

Reading – 20 minutes a day

A longer task for 30 minutes

Spelling/ number facts (optional practice)

Year 5

Reading – 25 minutes a day

A longer task for 35 minutes

Spelling/ number facts (optional practice)

St. Agnes ACE Academy

Homework Policy January 2017

Year 6

Reading – 25 minutes a day

Weekly Spelling/ Grammar/ Punctuation and Maths practice as SATs revision

This homework should take approximately an hour to complete and consolidates classroom learning.

Longer tasks and other activities may include:-

- Reading comprehension
- Writing composition
- Language investigations
- Maths investigations
- Preparing presentations
- Finding out information
- E-schools on-line activities to support the core and foundation subjects

Each class teacher will be responsible for the planning, setting and commenting on of their class's homework and take into consideration children's individual education plans for those with a additional need in literacy or numeracy.

Class teachers will provide parents with a half-termly overview of the spelling/ phonics and number facts that their child will be learning, both in class and at home. Therefore, it is not necessary to formally record homework relating to learning these facts, and homework of this nature will not be marked.

Each parent will be responsible for ensuring the child has the opportunity to complete set homework.

Each child will be responsible for completing set work.

Role of parents and carers in supporting pupils

We would encourage parents and carers to:-

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place where children can do their homework either alone or, especially for younger children, with an adult.
- Be actively involved in joint homework activities where possible.
- Make it clear that they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help the child's learning.
- Encourage their children and praise them when homework is completed.

St. Agnes ACE Academy

Homework Policy January 2017

Feedback for pupils, parents or carers and teachers

- Children will receive feedback on their completed homework through:
 - How successfully they are able to apply knowledge and skills practised through homework to class work (evidence in pupil books);
 - Marked longer homework activities.
 - Teachers' termly review of completed E-school homework.
- Parents will be able to give the school feedback by completing an annual questionnaire.
- The efficiency and effectiveness of this homework policy will be monitored and evaluated on a yearly basis.

Review

This policy was updated in December 2016.
It will be reviewed Autumn 2017.

St. Agnes ACE Academy

Homework Policy January 2017

Appendix 1

Suggested Spelling Homework Activities

1. Rainbow Words- Write your words and trace over them in 3 different colours.
2. Ransom Words- Cut letters out of newspaper, magazines, or write them out on paper and cut them, then glue them together to build your words.
3. Hidden Words- Write your words and find hidden words in your words. Ex. that – hat – at
4. Look/Say/Cover/Write/Check.
5. Shaving Cream Words- Write your words out in shaving cream.
6. Tracing Words- Trace your words in sand, on felt, in the carpet, using your finger.
7. Word Search- Create a word search on puzzlemaker.com. Find your words.
8. Word Hunt- Search for your words in books/texts or around the house. Write your words as you find them.
9. Font-abulous- Type your words in 3 different fonts on the computer.
10. Chalk Talk- Write your words in chalk. You can do this activity with a dry erase board and marker too.
11. 3 Way Words- Write your words three ways, really big, really small, and in your best handwriting.
12. Word Boxes- Write your words. Then make boxes around each letter. Ex. h a p p y
13. Trace & Spell- Have someone write your words neatly. Trace the words spelling out each letter in the word.
14. Spelling Sentences- Write the word, use it in a sentence, write the word. Ex. cat I have a cat named Bangs. cat
15. Pretest- Take a pretest. Check over each of your words. Write any incorrect words 3 times each.
16. ABC Order- Write your words in abc/alphabetical order 3 times.
17. Silly Riddle Words- Write a riddle for each of your words. Include a clue about how the word is spelled. Solve your riddles. Ex. The word is 4 letters long. The first letter is b and it rhymes with shark.
18. Word Chains-Write down each spelling word. Change one letter to make a new word. Challenge: See if you can go back to your original word. Ex. cake, lake, late, date, mate, make, cake
19. Crossword Puzzle- Create a crossword puzzle on puzzlemaker.com. Solve it.
20. Word Strategies- Come up with a strategy to help you learn each of your “tricky words”. Ex. B-E-A-U-tiful
21. Syllable Spelling- Write your words breaking them up into syllables
22. Spell & Brush- Spell your words while brushing & flossing your teeth.
23. Spell & Play- Spell your words while playing an instrument.
24. Cheer & Spell- Cheer the spelling of your word.

St. Agnes ACE Academy

Homework Policy January 2017

25. Body Letters- Spell each of your words while making each letter with your body
26. Word Exercise- Spell your words while doing your favourite exercise
27. Travel Spelling- Spell your words out loud in the car, while riding your bike, or while taking a walk
28. Sing & Spell- Sing a song or chant your spelling words. Ex. Peo-ple, peo-ple
29. Record & Spell- Record yourself spelling your spelling words. Play the recording again and spell along.
30. Magnetic Letters- If you have magnetic letters, use them to build your spelling words.

Suggested website for practising times table facts:

Disraelischool.co.uk/for-pupils/the-99-club