

HOMEWORK POLICY

1. Aims:

- To ensure a consistent approach to homework throughout the school;
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children have a clear understanding regarding expectations for homework;
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children are fully aware of the role they play with regard to homework.

2. What is the purpose of homework?

- For the children to have fun and enjoy working at home to consolidate, reinforce and extend their skills and understanding, particularly in Literacy and Numeracy;
- To provide opportunities for parents and children to work together;
- To allow parents to gain an understanding of what children are learning in school;
- To allow children to progress towards becoming more independent learners.

3. What is the role of the school?

- To provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework;
- To ensure this policy is fully and consistently followed;
- To provide support for parents with information about homework.

4. What is the role of the teacher?

- To plan and set a programme of homework that is appropriate to the needs of the child;
- To ensure all children understand the homework they have been given;
- To mark and give feedback about homework;
- To be available to talk to parents and children about homework;
- To inform parents if there is a problem regarding homework.

5. What is the role of the parent?

- To support the child in completing homework;
- To ensure the child completes homework to a high standard and hands it in on time;
- To provide the appropriate conditions for the child to complete the homework;
- To provide the appropriate resources for the child to complete the homework.

6. What is the role of the child?

- To ensure they have everything they need to complete homework each week;
- To make sure they understand the tasks that have been set;
- To put in the same level of effort as would be expected of class work;
- To hand the homework in on time;
- To take on board any feedback about homework.

Homework in KS2:

For children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6, one piece of literacy and one piece of numeracy homework will be set every Friday. My Maths and other types of maths homework will be alternated every week. If a child has a problem accessing “My Maths” they should tell their teacher.

Both pieces of completed homework will need to be submitted by the following Wednesday.

It is expected that daily reading, spelling and times-tables revision activities will happen in addition to this policy.

Homework Club is run by staff every Tuesday evening from 3.15 – 4.15pm in the media suite and this is accessible to all children in Years 3 – 6 in order they can complete their homework if it is not possible for them to do so at home.

If a child is absent on a Friday when homework is set, teachers will try and get the information to the child e.g. via a friend or email. If this is not possible, the child should remind the teacher on their return to school. This may mean the child has less time to complete their homework.

It is expected that all children in KS2 will complete their homework on time and to a good standard. If either or both pieces of homework are returned late or are of a poor quality, or it is obvious there has been little or no attempt to complete it, children will attend a “homework catch up session” on the Wednesday lunchtime with the Headteacher or DHT. This helps ensure there is a thorough and consistent approach to the completion of homework across KS2 and children know there is a clear expectation that homework is done and to a good standard.

Pupils in Year 6 may receive additional homework. This is to support them with the demands of the Year 6 curriculum and leading up to their SATs, besides helping prepare them for their move to secondary school.

Individual needs will be taken into account. Teachers will be happy to meet with parents to advise how they can support their children’s learning at home.

Homework should take no more than:

20 mins in Yr 3;

30 mins in Yr 4&5

60 mins in Yr 6 (in addition to reading and spellings).

Homework will be marked and feedback given: teacher involvement and feedback is a crucial element in the effectiveness of homework.

Homework in KS1:

Children in Year 2 will start getting homework after the February half term (Term 3 onwards). This is to help prepare them for the transition to KS2. They will receive one piece of literacy homework one week and one piece of numeracy homework the next. Children are also expected to read regularly and practise their spellings.

Homework Policy in Reception/ Foundation Stage:

Reading

Reading on a regular basis is vital for **all** children. Children will bring their reading books home every evening and the role of the adult is to listen and support them. It is important to remind them to use different strategies to read new words, sounding out the word, looking at the pictures and looking for words within words are ways in which the child can read an unknown word. Just as important is discussing the book to check that the child has understood what they have read. Children will have a reading record which parents/carers should sign or comment in each time they read with the child. Reading books will not be changed unless the reading record has been signed.

Parents will be informed of the phonemes and high frequency words that the children are learning in school each half term through the curriculum newsletters and information displayed in the class windows/notice boards.

We would like to see all children having fun reading at home. This can be done in two ways:

Adults reading to children-

Parents are encouraged to use the books and information school sends home to read frequently with their child. All the flashcards and books are suitable to read to children. Parents should encourage children to point to words as they are being read. Discussion about the books is also very important.

Children reading to an adult-

When they are ready to, children will start bringing simple books home to read to an adult. Again, encouraging the child to point to the words as they are being read is important. Discussing the story and the characters and asking questions about the book will help with the child's understanding of language.

Reception children may also be asked to work on word flashcards, number recognition, or any number of one-off activities focussed on a particular topic.

How much time should be spent on homework?

As much as you feel your child is comfortable doing but try and do small amounts regularly rather than a lot at once.

High Frequency Words

Children will have daily phonics lessons throughout Key Stage 1 which will also include ways that children can build up a secure sight vocabulary. It is vital that children build up a bank of words which they can read and spell on sight. Children may bring home some words each week for them to read, write and learn. Parents can help children to learn these by practising them regularly and often. Children will often receive the same words again in order to practise them further.

Try to do some reading every day and the spellings or other homework when it is sent. Ideally 10-15 minutes a night to ensure the children are not overloaded.

Frequently Asked Questions

How can parents find out more information about homework?

Each year group will inform the parents about ways to work with their children through the half termly learning links and specific information given in the homework instructions.

If parents need advice on how to support their children with homework then they can talk to the class teacher.

What if a child says they have received no homework?

It is unlikely that there will be many occasions when homework is not set for the children even if it is just to continue reading their book. If a child says they have received no homework please check with the teacher in case they have missed it being given out. There may be occasions if the teacher is away that the homework is not set but we will try to avoid that happening.

How will the homework be marked?

Teachers will mark children's homework in a variety of ways but always according to the schools marking policy. Children may be given verbal feedback or there may be written feedback on the individual homework pieces set by the teacher. In all feedback children will be given appropriate positive comment together with a clear explanation of their next steps for learning.

Policy revised by SLT in September 2015

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