

LAVANT C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL



Learning together in faith - always aiming for the best

Homework Policy

Written
Review

Summer 2019
Summer 2021

Philosophy

At Lavant CE Primary we strongly believe in home-school collaboration and value the impact that learning outside school has. Our homework policy aims to meet the needs of all our children and families, acknowledging the need for all children to be prepared for transition to secondary school, and their increased expectations of homework. This policy will be discussed with families each year during our 'Termly Overview' meeting early each autumn term where class teachers will explain their classroom routines.

What does homework look like at our school?

As your child progresses through school, homework will look different. The aim of this policy is to make the expectations we place on our families and teaching team clear.

- All children, regardless of age or stage, benefit enormously from being read to, and with, every day. As such, we strongly recommend that all our families build daily reading into their routines. (This does not always need to be their school reading book). Each child in EYFS to year 4 is provided with a Reading Diary which enables, staff, parents and children to record their observations and reflections on books that are being enjoyed.
- In addition to reading, all children are expected to learn and practise spellings to build confidence and accuracy in written work.
- Regular practise of number bonds, and later, times tables is vital to ensure quick, accurate recall and an interest in number facts.
- Children may also be asked to complete an activity which supports the learning in a current or future Learning Journey, or a piece of mathematics.

The length of time required to complete the activity varies according to the age of the child.

The day on which homework tasks are set varies according to the programme for the week in each year group, however the teachers will endeavour to ensure that there are several days over which a task may be completed and that it extends beyond the weekend, to enable other out of school and family commitments to be enjoyed. Parents will receive information regarding when homework is set, and the day it needs to be returned, on the termly curriculum letters and in termly overview meetings.

Marking homework

All homework will be acknowledged and rewarded by the class teacher but will not be given in-depth feedback in the same way that learning at school is. Feedback could be verbal, or in the form of a written comment. Spellings will not always be tested in a traditional sense but will be used as a focus for marking in application in writing across all curriculum areas. Times tables may be tested but, more importantly, will be used in application in mathematics.

Parents and carers roles:

Parents are asked to be positive in their support by encouraging children and praising them for having a go. We encourage parents to sign the children's homework when the children have finished and warmly welcome parents to write a message too if they would like to.

Children with special needs:

It should be ensured that SEN children can achieve success at their level. Some tasks may be inappropriate for certain pupils, whilst others could be modified to match their academic ability. Some children, who receive SEN programmes, may be provided with additional or supplementary homework to enhance their learning.

HOW IS HOMEWORK ORGANISED IN OUR SCHOOL

All children in EYFS and years 1 - 4 are given a weekly 'Home Activity Sheet' which outlines compulsory tasks (in red) and also suggests a range of practical activities that may be completed if desired (in blue). In preparation for secondary school, **all** homework is compulsory for children in years 5 and 6 (Pheasant Class).

Wren Class (EYFS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children will bring home a reading book to share with parents as often as possible.• Phonic activity sheets and Key words are sent home for children to learn.• Ideas for practical activities at home are suggested for each learning journey on the 'Home Activity Sheets'.• Parents are asked to record WOW / significant moments they see at home on the sheets provided. These will be included in their Learning Journals and help to build a picture of the children's progress.
Robin Class (Years 1 & 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children will bring home a reading book to share with parents. Parents listen to their child read at least four times a week and fill in their child's reading record.• Ideas for activities in English, Maths and Learning Journeys are suggested on 'Home Activity Sheets'.• User names and passwords are issued to enable children do develop their spelling and mathematical skills online• In Year 2, 2x 5x 10x times tables are sent home in the Spring and Summer terms. (When appropriate, children will be asked to learn 3x)
Woodpecker Class (Years 3 & 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children will bring home a reading book to share with parents. Parents listen to their child read at least 4 times a week and fill in their child's reading record.• Spellings and times tables sent home to be practised daily.• A variety of English, Maths and Learning Journey activities are provided to consolidate / extend learning on Home Activity sheets.• User names and passwords are issued to enable children do develop their spelling and mathematical skills online
Pheasant Class (Years 5 & 6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The expectations for Years 5 and 6 are higher, both in quality and quantity.• The learning of tables, spellings and reading continues.• Maths and English tasks are given weekly.• User names and passwords are issued to enable children do develop their spelling and mathematical skills online

In addition to regular homework, some children may be asked to complete unfinished classroom work if it is deemed appropriate.

Take Away Tasks

On occasions children are encouraged to complete a longer project, such as making or preparing a model or costume. The school recognises that such activities may need more significant support from parents, but wishes to note that all contributions are valued and that for some families this type of activity positively engages other members of the family with the learning. These tasks are open ended in nature to help extend understanding of topics and to further extend key skills. To celebrate the children's achievements they are shared at the culmination of the Learning Journey with the whole class and with parents too.

Prodigy (Maths) and Spellodrome (Spellings)

Children in years 1 - 6 are provided with user names and passwords to enable them to access online platforms designed to help children consolidate and extend their mathematical skills and knowledge of spelling rules. This may be linked to weekly homework tasks.

Homework books

From Year 2 every child is issued with a homework book in which homework tasks are recorded. Parents are encouraged to communicate with the school through this book, if necessary.

This policy will be reviewed in two years time.