



## BISHOP BRONSCOMBE C of E (VA) SCHOOL

### Homework Policy

Updated:	November 2015	Revised by:	Debbie Carmichael
Due for Review:	November 2017	Governor responsible:	Carole Gardner

#### School Aims:

At Bishop Bronescombe School we aim to give all children:

- ✚ Access to a rich curriculum which enthuses and equips them for life as citizens in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- ✚ Opportunities to explore their own developing Christian faith and to have respect for the faith of others.
- ✚ High self esteem by feeling valued as a member of our school.
- ✚ A sense of fair play, treating others with dignity and respect.
- ✚ The chance to enjoy taking part in a vibrant, forward looking school, moving their learning forwards.

Bishop Bronescombe School Motto is: *'Learning that lasts a lifetime.'*

#### The Purpose of Homework

##### Aims and Objectives

- ◆ To provide an important link between the school and home by showing parents, on a regular basis, the tasks and activities that their children are involved in. Partnership between home and school is an important part of the philosophy of Bishop Bronescombe and regular homework provides an excellent opportunity for improving home/school communication and developing closer home/school links.
- ◆ To encourage parental support in their children's learning.
- ◆ To exploit resources for learning, of all kinds, at home e.g. Internet, CD Rom, Encyclopaedias.
- ◆ To extend school learning or prepare for learning in school, for example through additional reading or using ICT to research information.
- ◆ To practice key skills in reading, maths and spelling.
- ◆ To make children responsible and organised in their learning at home in preparation for more frequent homework at secondary school.

##### Objectives

- ◆ To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in English and Mathematics.
- ◆ To improve reading and comprehension skills.
- ◆ To develop positive attitudes to learning beyond the classroom.
- ◆ To develop pupil's confidence, self-discipline and understanding of the need to balance leisure time with work/study time.

### Homework activities

- ◆ The main focus of homework is on English and Maths.
- ◆ Half-termly 'project' homework is set, focussing on one of the six school Christian values. This is optional but is a great way of reinforcing the values we hold dear as a C of E school and also allows children (with parental support) to express their ideas creatively.
- ◆ In addition to regular activities, homework of other kinds may be set, which increases in its demands depending on the age and ability of the child. This might include finding out information, reading in preparation for lessons, preparing oral presentations and more traditional assignments.
- ◆ We expect children to maintain the same standards for presentation of homework as we set in school i.e. to use their best handwriting and a sharp pencil (or pen if children have earned their 'pen licence').

### Reception

- ◆ All children take home activities to practise their phonics to read and spell.
- ◆ When ready, they will be expected to read and/or discuss a home/school reading book.
- ◆ All children take home a Maths- or English-based activity to carry out at home with their parent or carer each Thursday.

### Years 1-4

- ◆ All children take home 10 spellings each Thursday, including words from the DfE's statutory word lists. These words are tested on a weekly basis.
- ◆ All children are expected to read from their home/school reading book.
- ◆ An English or Maths task will be sent home on alternate Thursdays, which must be completed by the following Tuesday.

### Years 5-6

- ◆ All children take home 10 spellings each Thursday, including words from the DfE's statutory word lists. These words are tested on a weekly basis.
- ◆ All children are expected to read from their home/school reading book.
- ◆ One English and one Maths task will be sent home on every Thursday, which must be completed by the following Tuesday.

### Special Educational Needs

Homework is linked to the work children follow in class and is therefore differentiated to match the ability level of each child. This may mean that children in the same class may have slightly different set task their learning.

### Higher-Ability or Gifted & Talented pupils

Some children may be working at a higher level than others in their class. We want them to be sufficiently challenged in their home learning as well as in school. Therefore, they may be set differentiated tasks, have an extra challenge or be set extra projects.

### Guidelines for duration of homework

We do not specify amounts of time that must be spent on a task, preferring individual children and families to set their own routines. Individual teachers are happy to give advice. As a general rule, the youngest children should read for approximately 10 minutes a day, building up to approximately 30 minutes a day in year 6.

### Holiday homework

Homework during the Easter holidays will be set for children in year 2 and year 6 to enable them to prepare for end of Key Stage Statutory Assessments. This is optional but, of course, it is extremely beneficial for children to complete.

### Homework Club

A weekly homework club runs for KS2 children. Support is offered if needed.

### Concerns

If parents find the homework inappropriate for their child, if they lack interest, if it becomes a battleground or if they are concerned that homework is given inconsistently, parents are welcome to talk with their child's teacher in the first instance. If they still have concerns, they can talk with the Head of School or Assistant Head.