

Elburton School Homework Policy

The whole school has an agreed homework policy and the following information will be helpful in putting this policy into practise. Many parents have expressed an interest in being able to help their children and will be expected to in conjunction with this policy. Homework policies, to be effective, need to be part of a wider partnership between parents and schools and teachers need to be able to count on the support of parents. We have this support and partnership at Elburton and homework can only foster and develop parents' greater understanding of the work of their child and the school.

Planning teams should clearly set out their timetable for homework in the termly letter to parents.

- The main focus of homework for children at Elburton School will be on literacy and numeracy. Science and other subjects should be added to the programme as pupils move up the school, without losing this focus on numeracy and literacy.
- Reading should be the key focus with all children being encouraged to either read to a parent or carer, be read to, or if fluent readers read on their own for at least 10 to 20 minutes a day.
- Other literacy related homework will include for example learning spellings and practising correct punctuation
- In numeracy schools are recommended to set number games and tasks, and more formal exercises for older children that they can do at home with parents and carers. At Key Stage 2 these tasks should be of a more challenging nature
- As children become older more demanding homework tasks should be given including:
 - a finding out information
 - b reading in preparation for lessons
 - c preparing oral presentations
 - d more traditional writing assignments
- While there is a designated amount of time to be spent on homework it is less important than the quality of tasks set and the way they are planned to support learning. Tasks should have:
 - a a clear focus and time guidelines. All homework should wherever possible have a clear learning intention for the pupil and parent and clear time guidance
 - b homework should be part of the weekly planning process. Weekly planning sheets have a space for the planned homework to be included during weekly team planning meetings.
 - c give plenty of opportunities for pupils to succeed
 - d be varied
 - e be manageable for teachers

Class	Reading	Literacy	Numeracy	Other work
Years 5/6 Total 3 hours per week	Expected daily emphasis on sustained independent reading but children should still be encouraged to read to or listen to parents	Weekly task relevant to current work and sending unfinished work when appropriate. Revision work, including spellings, for SATs	Weekly task or linked to developing mental skills. Revision work for SATs	Relevant work whenever appropriate. These may be tasks related to class work or extension activities
Years 3/4 Total 2 hours per week	Expected daily as reading skills develop independent reading will become more important but children will be expected to read to parents daily and also hear parents read to them	Weekly task relevant to current work and sending unfinished work when appropriate	Weekly task or linked to developing mental skills	Research or finding out tasks whenever appropriate
Key Stage 1 Total 1 hour per week		Occasional short literacy task eg phonics, learn spellings, alphabet, key words etc	Small task eg tables, number facts, building some more formal maths in Y2 especially in preparation for the SATs	Children may occasionally be asked to find out a small research piece at home linked class work