



Whitemoor Academy Homework Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to make explicit what is expected of both teachers and pupils regarding weekly homework activities. All members of staff are expected to be familiar with the policy and to apply it consistently.

The need for a homework policy

Homework is an essential element of children's primary school education. It enables them to further consolidate their learning at home by extending what they have learned at school. Furthermore, it enables pupils to deepen their understanding of the learning that has taken place at school to ensure that they are secure in their learning of key concepts. Completing homework enables pupils to make good progress in their learning. It also helps to prepare children to become independent learners and manage their own time effectively in preparation for secondary school and beyond.

What will homework consist of?

EYFS

- Daily reading which will be recorded in the reading record book.
- Optional topic based learning tasks as set by the class teacher on a Friday in the weekly newsletter. There will not be a task every week.

Key Stage One

In year one and two children will be set homework as follows:

- Daily reading which will be recorded in the reading record book.
- Spellings and Times Tables: pupils will be given new spellings and times tables to learn each week. These will be tested the following week.
- One piece of maths. This may be computer based maths work such as My Maths, or a paper based piece of work to complete.
- Topic homework books. Children will be asked to complete a task a week that is linked to their class topic. All activities will be completed in the homework books unless otherwise stated by the class teacher.

Key Stage Two:

In year three, four, five and six, children will be set homework as follows:

- Daily reading, to be recorded in the reading record book.
- Spellings and Times Tables: pupils will be given new spellings to learn every week. These will be tested the following week. Children will produce Look, Cover, Write, Check for these spellings each day.
- One piece of maths per week. This may be computer based maths work such as My Maths or a paper based piece of work to complete.
- Topic homework books. Children will be asked to complete either 1, 2 or 3 tasks depending on teacher judgement. All activities will be completed in the homework books unless otherwise stated by the class teacher.

In Year 6, children will also have additional SATs booster work to complete to prepare them for the end of KS2 assessments and prepare them for the demand of homework at secondary school.

When is homework set?

All year groups (1-6) set new homework every Friday. This homework should be returned to school by the following Friday morning, allowing children a full week to complete the activities which have been set. If homework is not returned by Friday, pupils will be given an additional opportunity to complete the work in school during their break and lunchtimes.

Holiday homework

On occasion, children will be set a piece of homework to complete during the school holidays. This piece of work will link with the next topic that children will learn. The homework will allow children to research and be inspired by their next topic and start the topic with knowledge and questions to investigate further.

Star home learning

Exceptional pieces of 'home learning' will be celebrated within the classrooms but also in our achievement assembly on Fridays. This will include work that children complete at home beyond that set by their class teacher. We may also share some of these pieces of work on our website.

Marking

Homework should be marked in line with the marking policy. Children should be given adequate feedback regarding how well they have done and where appropriate, what they need to do to improve. Exceptional effort with homework is rewarded through use of 'well done tickets' or stickers.

Parents and Homework

Parents are encouraged to guide children with their homework should they need it, however they should encourage the child to work independently to complete the tasks set. If parents have any issues with homework they should raise their concerns with the class teacher initially. If children persistently fail to hand in their homework, they will be given the opportunity to complete it during lunchtimes and this will be discussed with parents.

Setting homework

Teachers have a responsibility to ensure that pupils are set homework which is at an appropriately differentiated level. They should ensure that homework set is in line with work which has been completed at school and so is not an entirely new concept to the child.