



"Creating a community where we learn together through respect, kindness, curiosity, and faith."

Homework Policy

Introduction

We recognise the crucial importance of a partnership between home and school. Homework is just one of the ways in which we seek to foster this partnership.

The decision on whether to set homework and, if so, how much, is now at the discretion of headteachers. The DfE still advises schools to keep a homework policy to explain their position on the setting of homework.

Aims and Objectives

Regular, well planned homework can:

- Enable pupils to advance their progress, skills and understanding in academic and social development
- Develop good work habits and self-discipline for the future
- Provide opportunities for individualised work and develop skills of independent learning
- Consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and assist in preparation for future class work
- Provide a context for pupil/parent interaction
- Help parents gain insight into their child's schoolwork and promote partnership between home and school

Homework is a way in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning and begin to consider their time management. It can also best prepare them for secondary school homework expectations.

What is Homework?

Children should view homework as an extension of their school work and it should not be a chore. There may be occasions when some tasks are more challenging or difficult than usual as homework plays a positive role in reinforcing or consolidating something they are less secure with. We see homework as encompassing a wide range of possibilities.

What the school will offer

Throughout the year, parents receive an overview of the curriculum and get the opportunity to meet with the class teacher to discuss progress and areas of study to be undertaken in relation to the National Curriculum. When teachers set homework, they will ensure that:

- It is always clearly related to current areas of study within the classroom or a revisit of previous learning.
- The task is made clear to children.

- Time scales for completion and submission are fair and made explicit.
- Work is marked as promptly as possible and, where appropriate, involves the children.
- Problems or difficulties encountered by children are dealt with swiftly. Children should approach teachers themselves with queries as a first point. Teachers and parents can then follow this up if need be.

Teachers are not expected to give additional or differentiated homework tasks. You are welcome to seek alternative or additional homework.

Types and amount of homework

Progression is planned from Reception to Key Stage Two through the provision of appropriate activities and the increasing expectations we have of our children and the amount of homework that they are given as they move up through the school.

Reading

Aim for a minimum of 4 times per week, to be record in your child's reading record, signed by adult.

In addition, Year 5 and 6 will be set a reading comprehension or SPAG exercise. This will be set on a Thursday and handed back in on the following Wednesday.

To raise the profile of reading in school and at home we are working on a whole school incentive, watch this space!

Spellings

Weekly test set on Thursday tested on a Wednesday.

Maths

MyMaths is a new online platform where all maths homework will be set and completed in Years 2-6.

Extras

KS1 Reading Eggs

KS2 Times Tables Rockstars

Brain Builders

A timetable will be released for Brain builders at the start of the term.

EYFS will be doing a mixture of reading, sounds and phonics and will use a variety of platforms including Purple Mash, Reading Eggs and LetterJoin.

Homework is non-compulsory. If the choice is TV/video games and homework, we would love for children to choose homework, especially reading. However, we would much prefer children outside, playing sports, going to Brownies or Scouts, spending time as a family, cooking, visiting famous landmarks, enjoying outdoor experiences, etc. If you would like extra homework, class teachers would be happy to recommend books/resources to buy or websites to use.

Brain Builders

Brain Builders are designed to link homework activities to those completed in the classroom and more specifically, the topic being studied. Brain Builders will ensure continuity across the school and make homework something that children can take control of, actively engage

with and take pride in.

Holiday Homework

It is expected that all children read regularly to maintain their reading standard and fluency, particularly during holiday periods of two weeks or more.

Teachers are not expected to supply additional homework because of unauthorised family holidays during term time but will happily signpost you to activities and online materials.

Reading Books

All pupils are expected to read at home to an adult at least four times per week. Although many children enjoy reading modern books, it is also important to access classic texts and reading scheme books set at their level to enhance their range of traditional vocabulary through developing sound knowledge and understanding. It is also recommended that parents/carers read out loud to children to promote a shared love for reading and to model reading using voices and punctuation.

This is of vital importance so the children:

- learn standard English to support speaking and listening
- develop and extend their vocabulary
- understand words and phrases
- develop the ability to infer and deduce through questioning and reasoning
- increase their pace of reading

The Role of Parents

It is important that parents display a positive attitude to homework and value its significance. It is also necessary for parents to recognise that it is the children's responsibility to complete the work so teachers can monitor how well they work independently. The role of the parent is therefore largely to encourage their child to commence their homework, praise and encourage them through their homework and support them when necessary. To enable homework to be a smooth and enjoyable experience, parents need to discuss with their children the following:

- An appropriate time to do homework
- The best place for homework to be done
- How long the homework should take
- How much help they require

If parents have any concerns or questions regarding the homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher who is happy to resolve any issues or concerns. For any formal complaint about the school homework policy or the way it is implemented; parents should follow the Complaints Policy and Procedures.

Pupils with special educational needs

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special needs, we endeavor to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

Marking and Feedback

Marking and feedback is seen as an essential part of homework. It informs the teacher of the child's attitude and approach to homework, the level of effort taken, the child's understanding of the homework set and the strengths and areas for further development. Teachers will mark the homework they set each week and provide feedback when necessary. This can also be done verbally. Where possible, the teacher will go through the homework with the class to self-mark so they can identify their own strengths and areas for improvement or clarify misconceptions. Online homework will be monitored by the class teacher and Dojo points will be awarded for all the projects undertaken.

Monitoring and Review

Reviewed: Autumn 2024

Next Review Date: Autumn 2025

