



Policy Name	Homework
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Governing Body or Working Group Approval	Teaching & Learning Committee
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Homework Policy

Introduction

As a school we believe that

- Homework has a positive impact on pupil's motivation and raising achievement, and plays a valuable role in developing home-school relationships.
- Homework will provide opportunities for our children to practise and consolidate their concepts, skills and knowledge, to extend their techniques and strategies and to prepare for their future independent learning
- Homework activities should be varied, interesting and fun so that they motivate children, stimulate their learning and foster different study skills
- Homework should be clear and easily understood by children and parents

The purpose of homework

- consolidating and reinforcing skills and understanding,
- extending school learning, for example through additional reading
- promoting a life-long love of learning
- encouraging pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own,

Underlying principles

- All homework must be planned and prepared to supplement and develop programmes of learning carried out in school.
- The foundations of effective homework practices are established early on and develop progressively across the school
- Homework tasks are differentiated and are appropriate
- The support of parents and carers is welcomed.
- The quality of completed homework is monitored and reviewed at regular periods in consultation with pupils and parents
- Homework completed well is acknowledged and praised
- The school understands and agrees with the principles of homework and can guide parents to additional resources especially via the school website
- Homework set is clear and can be easily understood by children and parents alike

Learning at Home

Children are encouraged to share with their parents what they are learning at school. The contribution parents make is greatly valued, in particular;

- providing a quiet place to work;
- giving encouragement and guidance;
- checking that work is completed and handed in on time

What will be set and how long should it take?

See Termly Topic Webs for details

Responsibilities and Expectations Year 3 and 4

- Read at least 5 times a week for 15 to 20 minutes.
- Maths and English tasks set weekly.
- Spelling at least fortnightly

- Each task should take no more than 15 to 20 minutes to complete.

Responsibilities and Expectations Years 5 and 6

- Read at least 5 times a week for 25 to 30 minutes
- Maths and English tasks set weekly.
- Science and Humanities (Topic work) tasks set when appropriate
- If science or topic work is set is either the English or maths will left out so there is the same amount of work (not additional work) each week
- Each task should take no more than 25-40 minutes to complete.

Responsibilities and Expectations for All

- It is the child's responsibility to complete and hand in homework on time
- More than one night is given to do homework
- If time constraints are difficult, this should be explained to the teacher via email or a note in the diary
- Standards of handwriting, spelling and presentation should be at least equal to the standard produced in school
- Care should be taken to keep books clean
- Parents need to check the Planner for messages and sign these at least once a week
- Teachers will inform parents if two consecutive homework pieces are not handed in
- Homework will be marked
- Teachers reserve the right not to set homework if special activities are taking place in school. Pupils will record that no homework has been set in their planners.

How can I help my child at home?

Expectations vary from year to year and according to the ability of the child. As a general rule all children should:

- **Read every day** from a range of fiction and non-fiction. It is important for all children to discuss the story, information or language to expand their understanding, use of inference and their ability to retrieve information.
- **Learn Spellings.** There are lists of regularly used words (upper and lower KS2 word lists), spelling rules and exceptions and, very importantly, the words that the individual child has used and misspelt.
- **Learn and constantly revise number facts,** multiplication and division tables up to x12. Chanting tables, quick questions, games and puzzles all help. There is a wide range of practice material available from booksellers or on line to help make this learning fun.
- **Research information for Topics.** Trips to museums or places of interest, visits to the library, using encyclopaedias or surfing the net, as well as discussing ideas with the family, all increase children's understanding of the world around them and provide a wealth of knowledge for assignments at school.

Maintaining the home/school link

Every child has a planner in which to record the work to be done. Teachers will check this book at least weekly and parents are asked to do the same and sign to show that they are aware of the homework their child has completed. This book can also be used as a means for parents and teachers to communicate with each other. If a parent feels their child has had a good go at their homework but is struggling, they

should tell their child to stop and then write a note explaining this to the class teacher. If time constraints are difficult, this too can be communicated via the planner or by email. We are here to help.

Acknowledgement of effort or achievement

- House points are awarded for outstanding effort or achievement
- Supreme effort may earn a star of the week award, presented in assembly.

Procedures for any problems

- Children should not continue with a task which is upsetting both parent and child.
- Children are welcome to attend the weekly drop in lunchtime homework club
- If work is regularly not completed, parents will be contacted via the homework diary.