



Homework Policy

Introduction

Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning.

Rationale for homework

An effective homework programme helps children to develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful lifelong learning. Homework also supports the development of independent learning skills and provides parents with an opportunity to take part in their children's education.

Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Regular homework is important as it gives pupils the opportunity to practice at home the tasks covered in class, and helps the pupils work towards improving important skills.

While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations that help to develop their skills, interest and talents to the full.

Aims

The aims of homework are:

- To enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner
- To promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning
- To consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons
- To help children develop good work habits for the future.

Types of homework

All homework activities should be related to work that children are doing at school. Homework should not always be written work.

For younger children it will largely be:

- Reading with parents and carers
- Spellings
- Simple games to practise Literacy and Numeracy skills
- Talking about a topic at home and collecting relevant items to show the class.

For older children homework may include any of the following:

- Reading
- Literacy activities
- Numeracy tasks
- Preparing a presentation for the class
- Finding out information
- Making something
- Try out a simple scientific experiment
- Cooking
- Preparing a longer more in-depth curriculum project.

Recommended time for homework

The amount of homework that we give children will increase as they move through the school, but from Reception to Year 6 reading with parents or independently will make up part of the homework time allocated below.

Based on the Government's current recommendations we expect children, with the support of their parents, to complete a minimum of:

Years 1 and 2	1 hour per week	(Spread across the week)
Years 3 and 4	1.5 hours per week	(Spread across the week)
Years 5 and 6	30 minutes per day	

The role of parents

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their children to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as they feel necessary and provide them with an environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a quiet work space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library, through safe computer and internet use and by discussing the work their child is doing.

We ask parents to check their child's reading diary (Key Stage 1) or homework book (Key Stage 2) at least once a week, and sign it as or when requested.

Feedback on homework

Feedback will be given to children on their homework to let children know how well they have done and how they could do better. This will not always be written comments from the teacher or teaching assistant but instead work may be discussed in lessons or comments may be given on one or two aspects of the work.

Monitoring and review

It is the responsibility of our governing body to agree and monitor the school homework policy. This will be carried out through consultation with children, staff and parents. Our governing body will pay careful consideration to any concerns that are raised. The policy will be reviewed regularly in line with the policy review cycle agreed by the governing body.