



Homework Policy

Definition

The term 'homework' is to be interpreted as 'further development of the whole child' not merely an extension of work done in school. It should therefore include any activities that children pursue outside of school; Swimming, Brownies, Beavers, Dance, Gym, tasks from school etc.

Rationale

If we are to recognise and value the importance of homework it is important that it is personalised to an individual child's needs and that everyone - teachers, children and parents –understands the philosophy that underpins our approach. The intention of this policy is to give that clear guidance.

Core Homework

This is ongoing for ALL children and the expectation is that time is given each evening to the following:

Maths

Learning/consolidation of number bonds to 10, then 20 and then moving on to learning multiplication tables.

Spelling

In Reception to Year 4, spellings (or flashcards) will be given to your child each Friday by the adult responsible for delivering their Letters and Sounds phonic teaching. These will be tested on the following Friday.

Reading

All children across the school will be expected to read daily with an adult. A record of the reading should be kept in the child's red book, which needs to be brought to school each day.

Y5 and Y6

It is important that we begin to prepare children for High School and the expectation of an increased level of homework. Therefore in addition to their core homework, the children in these two year groups will be given a literacy and a numeracy task every week. They will be expected to take ownership for a 'homework log' in which they record their weekly tasks.

All classes - Focused Consolidation Tasks

At different times during the week, individual children may be identified as having struggled with a particular concept or need more practice to achieve a certain target. If this is the case then their teacher will devise an individual homework task for them to carry out – this may be given on any day and for varying time spans – e.g. a maths task may need to be carried out that night as consolidation of the lesson that day before the lesson the following day; another task may be given over a period of a few days or week.

In order to highlight the importance of this homework and to ensure that parents are aware of it, these tasks will always be given with an explanatory cover note on yellow paper.

Extended Independent Learning Projects

Each half term the following will be placed on the website as voluntary investigative tasks that children from all classes, with their parent, can choose to carry out and bring in on completion:

Passport to the World

Literacy Project

Maths/Science Project

RE Project

How long?

The table below indicates the length of time that children in each year group, with their parents, will be expected to spend on their core homework each evening:

Year	Recommended time/week
Reception	20 minutes
Year 1	20 minutes
Year 2	20 minutes
Year 3	30 minutes
Year 4	30 minutes
Year 5	45 minutes
Year 6	45 minutes

This does not have to be in one block but may be 10 minute 'chunks' depending on age and levels of concentration.

Parents

Homework is one way that parents can become more involved with their children and able to spend quality time with them. We aim to make parents aware of why particular tasks may be brought home from school and would encourage parents to work with their children on these tasks. This will enable parents to take an active interest in their children's own pursuits. We would ask that parents:

- provide a reasonably comfortable, suitable place in which children can do their homework.
- make it clear to children that they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning
- most importantly, encourage their children and praise them when they have completed homework
- sign each piece of homework to show that they have shared the task with their child.

Conclusion

Tasks will be sent home from school throughout a child's primary years but this is not a medium to 'teach' new concepts, but rather to enhance a child's learning. With this in mind we are conscious that there are many other activities in the community providing many learning opportunities. Homework need not, and should not, get in the way of other activities and children should be encouraged by parents and school alike, to make full use of them.

September 2011
Reviewed/Revised January 2015
Reviewed/Revised November 2016
Reviewed/Revised September 2018