



# HOMework POLICY

Review by Head. Noted by SE Cttee.	16 <sup>th</sup> January 2020
Next Review	Spring 2022

## **INTRODUCTION**

Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day, which 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. For example, a parent who spends time reading a story to their child before bedtime is helping with homework.

## **RATIONALE FOR HOMEWORK**

Homework is an important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. We recognise that the time and resources available limit the educational experience that any school by itself can provide; children benefit greatly therefore from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. Indeed we see homework as an important way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents. One of the aims of our school is for children to develop as independent learners. We believe that homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.

Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. We also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations that play an important part in the lives of many children. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe they develop their skills, interests and talents to the full only when parents encourage them to make maximum use of the experiences and opportunities that are available outside of school.

## **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The aims and objectives 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 enable all aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth;
- To provide educational experiences not possible in school;
- 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

We set a variety of homework activities.

In the Foundation Stage and at Key Stage 1:

- Children should share a book with an adult for a ten minutes each evening
- We set *sound practice work* or spelling work
  
- We set practical maths games and activities for parents and children to share; in Year 1 and 2 there is also homework on the computer or worksheets
- In Year 2 the children complete a grammar homework sheet

In lower Key Stage 2:

- Children should read for a ten minutes each evening with an adult
- We set weekly spelling work
- Children do book reviews or topic based research activities each term
- We set weekly maths homework which may be a worksheet, computer activity or game

In upper Key Stage 2:

- Children should read each evening
- We set spelling work based on rules being taught each half-term
- We set weekly grammar and punctuation work
- Children do book reviews or topic based research activities each term
- We set weekly maths homework which may be a worksheet/computer activity or game
- Y6 children are asked to do SATs revision work in the spring

Teachers may set their own homework tasks for children at any time. These tasks will be designed to prepare children for a programme of work or to provide more practice for groups or individuals. Some teachers require that children learn spellings for a specific purpose.

We send a *curriculum newsletter* home at the beginning of each term, requesting that parents promote school based learning by taking their children on outings, talking to their children, choosing books from the library that support the work being covered. We suggest ICT based activities for parents and children to share.

Timetables for homework are provided in the school prospectus and on the school website.

## AMOUNT OF HOMEWORK

Reception Years 1 & 2	Approximately 1 hour per week	15 minutes per evening	Reading / sounds or spellings / grammar/ maths activities
Years 3 & 4	Approximately 1.5 hours per week	20 minutes per evening	Reading / spellings / handwriting / book reviews /topic research activities/ maths activities
Years 5 & 6	30 minutes per day	30 minutes per evening	Reading / spellings / Grammar and punctuation/handwriting / topic research activities / book reviews / maths activities / science

## 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 endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way. Pupils are not asked to copy homework from the board; special care is taken to support pupils with dyslexic tendencies when taking down written information.

## 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 child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as they feel necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and by discussing the work that their child is doing.

If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If their questions are of a more general nature, they should contact the head teacher. Finally, if they wish to make a complaint about the school homework policy or the way it is implemented; parents should contact the Headteacher.

## MONITORING AND REVIEW

It is the responsibility of our governing body to agree and then monitor the school homework policy.