

Homework Policy



Approved by the governing body on:-	
Signed (Chair of Governors)	
Review Date	September 2017

Homework Policy

	<p>Introduction</p> <p>The school policy for homework reflects the consensus of opinion of the whole teaching staff. It has been drawn up as a result of staff discussion and consultation with pupil and parental views expressed in July-September 2016. It has the full agreement of the governing body.</p>
	<p>Introduction</p> <p>We believe in promoting a partnership with parents in the education of their children. By providing homework we hope to involve the child and inform the parents. So homework is seen as an important method of communicating our learning between home and school.</p> <p>We recognise the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. Whilst homework helps to establish a responsibility to routine and prepare for transitions through life, it should not prevent children from taking part in a wide range of out of school activities, which play an important part in the lives of children developing confidence and raising self-esteem.</p> <p>We DO NOT intend homework to be stressful or to put the child or parent under pressure. If this is the case, home:school communication is encouraged to rectify the issues.</p> <p>We believe the purpose of homework is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage independence and individual responsibility;• Extend the learning experiences accessible to pupils;• To reinforce an effective partnership between the school and home;• Provide opportunities for parents and their children to learn together;• Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in Literacy and Numeracy;• Encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own, and preparing them for the requirements of secondary education.
	<p>Organisation</p> <p>As a guide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Homework will be set each week, excepting the first week of a full term.• Homework will be presented in a book.• All children should have the opportunity to read regularly, sharing this with an adult. This can be sharing or discussing a book with an adult, reading to an adult or listening to a story and can be a school book, child's own book or a library book.• When homework or reading has been completed, parents will be expected to sign or comment to that effect.• Reception children should extend the building blocks of reading with work on high frequency words to support reading; with homework taking upto 5 minutes per item.• Year 1 and 2 children should spend upto 10 minutes per item and supplement their mathematical learning with tables (including: x2, x3, x5, x10).• Year 3 and 4 this should spend upto 15 minutes per item and supplement their mathematical learning with tables (including: x4, x6, x7, x8, x9, x11, x12).• Year 5 and 6 children should spend upto 20 minutes per item and supplement their mathematical learning with all the tables. This will increase for Year Six during the year as children prepare for SATs and secondary readiness.

	<p>On occasions children may be asked to work on an extended project which is linked to their class theme, which they may complete over a number of weeks or a holiday.</p> <p><u>Other points:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As far as possible homework will be set on days specified at the beginning of the year and will include a weekend • Children will be given a deadline for returning homework • Homework should be completed in pencil in homework books • Staff will acknowledge homework through marking • Homework may be used to support class work or for group evaluation • If homework is not completed regularly, teachers will speak to a child's parents • If homework is not completed, where appropriate, children may be asked to complete it during break time.
	<p>Expectations of Pupils</p> <p>Children are encouraged to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read for pleasure and share a book with their parents/carers • Learn spelling rules or practise using sounds learnt in phonics • Spend time learning and practising times tables • Practise and investigate what has been learnt in school
	<p>The Role of Parents</p> <p>Parents will be encouraged to provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which pupils can do their homework.</p> <p>Parents will be encouraged to value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning. While we would expect parents to support and guide children when completing homework tasks, they should not complete homework <i>for</i> their children.</p> <p>Parents will be asked to encourage their children and praise them when they have completed their homework.</p> <p>Parents will be encouraged to comment in homework books and reading diaries to allow parents the opportunity to feedback to staff any appropriate comments which will enable the child to move forwards and be supported.</p> <p>Parents can also help with a range of learning opportunities, which whilst not formally set, help wider learning such as times tables, exploring topic linked websites, visiting the library, talking about activities at home eg cooking, news events, helping tell the time or using money and encouraging independence eg children should be helped to tie their own shoe laces, get dressed by themselves, prepare their bag for school etc.</p>
	<p>Monitoring Homework</p> <p>School will monitor the effectiveness of this homework strategy in order to assess whether or not the school's approach to homework is meeting pupils' needs.</p>