



# HOMework POLICY

Policy Review	
Review schedule	Every 3 years
Reviewing committee	People and curriculum
Date of last review	January 2018
Date of next review	January 2021

Head Teacher Signature	
Chair of committee signature	

Homework is seen as a way of extending the learning and achievement of all pupils. It helps children to develop skills and attitudes that they need for successful lifelong learning. It should support the development of independent learning skills. For homework to be effective parental involvement is important and the school values a working partnership with parents.

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 activities of various out-of-school clubs and of other organisations that play an important part in the lives of our pupils. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe they develop their interests and skills to the full only when parents encourage them to make maximum use of the opportunities available outside school.

### **Purpose of homework**

- Develop an effective partnership between the school, parents and carers.
- Encourage children to enjoy explore and share activities from school with their family.
- Provide opportunities for parents to share achievements and progress.
- Ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility for learning.
- Encourage pupils, as they get older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own.
- Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding (particularly in English and Maths.)
- Use resources for learning, of all kinds, at home – making learning real
- Extend school learning, for example through additional reading
- Allow children to be creative in their learning

### **Roles and responsibilities**

#### **The Head Teacher will ensure that homework is...**

- An integral part of the curriculum and is planned and prepared alongside planning for subject areas
- Appropriate to the age and ability of pupils, taking into account special educational needs
- Coordinated in order to be manageable for children on a daily, weekly and half term basis
- Informed by governmental guidance

#### **Teachers will ensure that...**

- Pupils are given English and maths tasks each week for example spellings or times tables
- Pupils and parents are given a set of topic related tasks at the beginning of each half term
- Pupils understand the purpose of the tasks
- It is clear to pupils how the tasks consolidate and extend the work they are doing in school

- Tasks are set and marked in line with the school marking policy. (Homework completed well is acknowledged and praised. House points are awarded for excellent attainment, effort or presentation.)
- They inform parents/carers if a pattern of avoidance develops or there appears to be another issue relating to home learning

#### **Pupils will be required to...**

- Demonstrate a commitment to spend an appropriate amount of time completing the tasks
- Present their work in line with our presentation guidelines
- Return their work on time

#### **Parents/carers will...**

- Make it clear to their children that they value home learning and are willing to support the school with their approach. This includes encouragement.
- Encourage the children to look after their learning logs
- Support children to plan their time and to meet deadlines
- Give teachers any useful feedback which may include:  
Notes in reading records  
Notes in homework diaries  
Verbal feedback

(if there are any problems with the homework set (such as the amount of time it is taking) we would encourage you to speak to the class teacher so that the teacher can speak to you or your child individually.

- Provide a suitable place in which homework can be completed

#### **Use of ICT**

The use of ICT and the Internet has made a significant contribution to the amount of reference material available at home, and the ease and speed with which it can be accessed. There are many websites containing highly educational material which can have a powerful effect on children's learning.

Once children have done initial research we would then be looking to see that they are using their research to aid their own work.

Following e-safety guidelines, we ask parents/carers to ensure computers with access to the internet are located in a room where they can monitor their child's use of internet sites.

We will make every effort to ensure equality of opportunity wherever possible; for example by considering the need for in school support with access to ICT resources where needed.

#### **Content and expectations**

The main focus of homework will be to develop, practise and consolidate key knowledge, skills and understanding in English and Maths through tasks set each week. Home learning grids for each half term will provide a choice of activities linked to the current themes in class. These grids are designed to allow the children to plan and organise their tasks over half a term. The children can choose which order they complete their tasks and they will be expected to do this with increasing independence over the year. Some of the tasks are designed to be quick and easy. Others may take several sessions to complete. As well as allowing organisational skills to be developed, and empower the children to take ownership of their learning, the grids are designed to give families some flexibility. Typically, a home learning

grid will contain 8 tasks to select from, and children are expected to complete at least 6 during half a term.

### **Time Allocation**

The following provides a guide to what might be a typical expectation as the children move through the school.

**Early Years** 5-10 minutes of reading or sharing a book. Flash cards will be given for phonics practice or letter formation. There will also be topic related or number homework when appropriate ( half an hour over a week).

Year 1 and 2 Daily reading for 10 minutes and weekly spelling, phonics and number work (1 hour over the week)

Year 3 and 4 15 minutes per day for reading or spelling. My maths homework. (up to 1 and a half hours over the week)

Year 5 and 6 up to 20 mins daily Regular weekly schedule of literacy and numeracy (up to 2 hours over the week)

### **Special Educational Needs**

Our expectations apply equally to children with special educational needs. However, children may receive differentiated tasks according to their needs, and reasonable adjustments will be made to support and include them.

### **Success**

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process.

Two-way communication about homework is conducted through the reading diaries in class 1 and class 2 and through homework diaries in classes 3 and 4.

### **Monitoring**

The efficiency and effectiveness of the homework policy is monitored and evaluated by the leadership team through checking planning, pupils' work and reading records. In addition checks will be made on the quality of the resources sent home.