



HOMEWORK POLICY

INTRODUCTION

Homework in our school takes various forms depending on the age of the pupils. For example, for younger children it may be practising reading and the learning of spellings and tables to support their learning in school, while for KS2 it may be additional work to prepare them for the demands of Secondary School homework.

Our homework policy and practice incorporates the DfE recommendations. We are also mindful that children have opportunities and experiences outside of school that are equally important in developing and enriching their lives. Our homework policy and practice aims to recognise those needs, so that children have time to be children.

THE PURPOSE OF HOMEWORK

As a child progresses through primary school, homework has some or all of the following purposes depending on the age of the child and format of the homework.

- It consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding learnt in school;
- It extends school learning, for example through additional reading;
- It provides opportunities for children to use out of school resources (e.g. books and Information Technology) found in the home or other places such as libraries;
- It fosters the partnership between the school and parents or carers in achieving the aims of the school for the benefit of the child;
- It helps develop the confidence and self-discipline the child needs to study on their own.

AIMS and RESPONSIBILITIES

Mindful of the above purposes of homework, our aims in setting homework are to:-

- give children further practice of the skills and concepts learnt during the school day;
- extend and support the learning experiences in school via reinforcement and revision;
- enable parents or carers to share in their child's education in partnership with the school;
- provide progression towards independence and individual responsibility in upper KS2 to prepare the children for transfer to secondary school;
- ensure consistency of approach throughout the school;

The school, parents or carers and pupils each have responsibilities regarding homework. These are as follows:

School is responsible for setting homework appropriate to the child's age in order to support teaching and learning.

Parents or carers are responsible for providing their child with time, space, encouragement and support with any homework they have including hearing their child read on a frequent basis and assisting in the learning of tables and spellings etc;

Pupils are responsible for remembering to take home and return to school all books and equipment needed to undertake their homework and for attempting to complete any homework set on time.

TYPE AND QUANTITY OF HOMEWORK

We follow the DfE recommendation that the main focus of homework for children in primary school should be on literacy and numeracy, with other work added to the homework programme for upper KS2 children.

Literacy

Within the Literacy Curriculum there is an expectation placed on parents or carers to hear their child read daily at home to practice the skills of reading taught in school during the daily Literacy lesson. Indeed the DfE Homework Guidelines states that:

"All primary school age children should either read to their parents or carers, listen to them reading or, if they are fluent readers, read on their own for at least 10 to 20 minutes a day."

(paragraph 20, page 9)

A Home - School record diary is provided for **all children**. Parents or carers can use them to record when they have listened to their child read as well as enable them to communicate to school any comments about their child's reading practice.

The Home - School record diaries are checked by the class teacher or teaching assistant on a regular basis. Reading advice is given to parents at the front of the diary and also throughout the year at various reading workshops and meetings that are held in school.

Numeracy

Throughout the school the children are asked to learn number bond patterns/times tables as appropriate for the age of the children.

Maths involves abstract concepts, which can make it difficult for children and adults alike to grasp. But the importance of Maths homework for kids is evidenced in their future academic development. Maths homework is given to sharpen students' knowledge of this subject and reinforce what they've learned in class. Maths homework helps children to develop discipline, retain knowledge and prepare for assessments. It develops many life skills which children will use in many ways in their futures.

Building The Kingdom (BTK) Homework Previously known as Enquiry Based Learning (EBL)

Since September 2019 we have give children research questions to support their topic. A question is sent home and children are expected to research this and bring in their research book before the lesson to be checked by the class teacher. If a child has not completed the research they will be expected to complete it in the research centre during their lunchtime. The research will then form part of the learning in the next lesson.

In most classes, BTK questions are sent home **weekly** with the research book. It is expected that the child will research using the internet, books and the library and bring the research in before the lesson to be checked.

Other Homework Expectations

In order to prepare the children for the demands of secondary school homework, children in KS2 may be given other homework more frequently such as R.E (Wednesday Word), Literacy, Maths, research relating to History, Geography and/or Science. A termly topic project will be set. Parents or carers

will be notified of what homework is to be set, and are reminded of our homework expectations regularly.

HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS OR CARERS

- Children are expected to bring attempted/completed homework into school on the day it is requested by the class teacher.

Note: for KS2 children, homework is often set in preparation for the next lesson (unless instructed otherwise.) Depending on when the next lesson is, this may mean that some homework needs to be completed for the next day as the child may find the subsequent lesson more challenging if they have not attempted the homework task first.

- Staff keep a record of homework brought in and will talk to parents if staff notice that it is not being done.
- Parents or carers are expected to support their child in building up a homework routine and encouraging their child to do their homework with care, to pack completed homework in their bags for the following day or agreed date of return.
- Homework is an integral part of learning, therefore, when a child has not completed a piece of homework, they will use part of their lunch time catching up with this learning.
- Parents or carers will be contacted by the class teacher and subsequently Head Teacher if homework is persistently not returned on time.

TIME ALLOCATION FOR HOMEWORK

When setting homework teachers will be mindful of the time allocations and will distribute the homework across the days of the week accordingly. Where the homework involves learning spellings and/or tables the checking of this may take the form of a test set on a specific day of the week.

Parents or carers will be notified of which day a test will be administered for example spelling test in order that they can support the child in their homework by ensuring the homework learning task is completed by the day of the test. Homework tasks set will generally practise skills the children have met during recent lesson activities.

HOMEWORK SUPPORT FACILITIES

In order to support children's learning, all children have the opportunity to complete homework during their lunch times, should they wish to do so for whatever reason.

Also, the school's open-door policy allows all staff to be made aware of any issues that may be significant to any child's ability to complete his or her homework.

HOMEWORK FEEDBACK

The school recognises that pupils benefit from feedback on their homework as soon as possible. Teachers will check that homework has been completed, and, depending on the task, may either personally mark the homework or arrange for the children to 'peer mark' or 'self mark' their work under the direction of the class teacher or teaching assistant. This may be followed by general feedback to the class.

We recognise and will reward the children for their efforts in homework tasks in accordance with our school rewards system when it is appropriate to do so.

ABSENCES

Children who miss lessons due to absence from school or being withdrawn from lessons to attend peripatetic instrument tuition will need to get a copy of the homework when they return to school.

Where children are absent from school for extended periods of time, it is not school policy to supply work to cover such periods. Children will be expected to continue their learning at home using the Home Learning area on the school website.

EYFS

Daily Reading

**Weekly phonics activities or Maths to support learning in class
(EYFS later in the school year they will receive weekly spellings.)**

KS1

Daily Reading

BTK question

Weekly spellings

Weekly Literacy and/or Maths *(depending on age of the children)*

KS2

Daily Reading

Weekly spellings

Weekly Literacy

Weekly Maths

Weekly BTK question *(research to be completed before the next lesson)*

MONITORING

Class teachers are responsible for the monitoring of homework. The Key Stage Leaders are responsible for the general monitoring of homework provision within their phase.

POLICY REVIEW

This policy was reviewed in September 2024.

As with every policy this is reviewed throughout the academic year but a formal review will be held every two years.

Next formal review: September 2026