

Homework Policy

Through this policy we aim to:

- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning.
- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do.
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment.
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning.
- To practise or consolidate skills and knowledge, especially in Numeracy and Literacy.
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.

The Nature of Homework

Homework can be set in many different forms with many different expectations and outcomes. It is important to remember that when expecting and setting homework there are a number of points to consider:

1. The nature and type of homework changes throughout a pupils school career.
2. Amount and frequency of homework should increase as a pupil gets older but this may also vary through the school year and be appropriate to the ability of the child.
3. Homework should not cause undue stress on the pupil, family or the teacher and should not disadvantage a child who may not have the resources at home to complete a given task.
4. It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.
5. Homework should be set regularly.

Recommended Time Allocation

Homework should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the pupil's family. If parents have any concerns they should not hesitate to contact the school. Normally, more than one day will be allowed for the completion of a homework task, except where daily practice is to be encouraged e.g. reading and times tables.

The following are recommendations as appropriate time allocations for homework activities

IY1-10 minutes per day typically reading

IY2/ IY3 - 1 hour per week

IY4/ IY5 - 1.5 hours per week

IY6/ IY7 - 30 minutes per day

Plus 20 minutes daily reading

Homework Tasks

Listed below are a number of example tasks and activities that might be given as homework. This is by no means an exhaustive list, although many of these tasks and activities will be used on a regular basis. Homework activities will change to meet the needs of the pupils involved and activities that might be occurring in class. All homework tasks and activities will have a clear purpose and assist pupils in their academic development.

These may include:

<p style="text-align: center;">Sunbeams-IY1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading books and key words • Counting up and down stairs, number of jumps, number of tins etc. etc. • Reciting nursery and counting rhymes. • "Talk Homework" • Identification of shapes in the environment. • Fastening/ unfastening buttons and zips, tying shoelaces, getting dressed/ undressed. 	<p style="text-align: center;">IY2-3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading books and key words • Spelling and word investigations • "Talk Homework" • Learning number facts • Literacy activities • Numeracy activities • Real life numeracy related problems
<p style="text-align: center;">IY4-5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Spelling and word investigations • "Talk Homework" • Literacy activities • Numeracy activities • Handwriting practise • Planning presentations • Researching topics • Learning number facts and Times Tables • Practising calculation strategies learned in class 	<p style="text-align: center;">IY6-7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Spelling and word investigations • "Talk Homework" • Handwriting practise • Reading comprehension activities • Planning pieces of writing • Planning presentations • Researching topics • Instant Recall Times Tables • Practising calculation strategies learned in class

Suggested Websites

- Education City
- IXL
- Reading A-Z
- Espresso
- Oxford Owl

Role of the Class Teacher

- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to children and, when necessary, parents and give guidance of how they might assist their child.
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- To mark homework appropriately, when necessary and give feedback to pupils.

Special Education Needs

Homework set for SEN pupils should be balanced to allow the child to do work in common with other members of the class whilst ensuring that the task is suitable. It should not be used as a way for the child to catch up with work not done in class, but may be linked to their IEP. Work should be set in consultation with the Inclusion Manager.

Role of Parents/Carers

- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the homework.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework.
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities.

We are very keen for parents to support and help their children with homework. We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved as long as they do not take over too much. However, there are times when we will want to see what children can do on their own. It is particularly important, as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be, they should discuss it with their child's teacher.

General

- If children are absent due to illness we will not send homework home. We would assume the child was too ill to work.
- If a child is absent for a length of time the teacher and the parent will agree what should be done, how it should be marked and what sort of help needs to be given. In such circumstances the teacher should consult the Head Teacher first.
- It is not possible to give homework when parents take holidays in term time.
- Parents/Carers who have queries about homework should not hesitate to make an appointment to see their child's class teacher.

Review

This policy will be reviewed in June 2017