

Purpose of homework

Homework is seen as an integral part of each child's education. It should enable children to become independent learners and encourage organisation and self-discipline. It offers time for preparation, reinforcement and consolidation of work covered in class.

Homework has a great importance in that it is one way parents can see the sort of subjects/work covered and see that learning does not just happen at school; it reinforces the partnership of home and school.

Homework plays a valuable part in a child's education by:

- Offering the opportunity to develop the self-discipline needed for independent learning and the development of study skills
- Enabling access to sources of information and ideas not always available in the classroom
- Reinforcing and extending skills acquired in class
- Involving the home in supporting and understanding the nature of the work done in school and appreciating the achievements of the children.
- Encouraging the children to become independent and confident learners.

Homework set

- Forms an integral part of curriculum planning supporting progression in learning
- Relates clearly to work done in class
- Involves a range of tasks which includes reading, which should be undertaken regularly
- Consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy
- Is appropriate to the ability of the child
- Is consistent across the Year Group
- Is progressive in quantity and quality through the school

What homework should look like

The importance of homework will always be emphasised and we expect parents to check their child's homework with the help of a homework book. This can also be a valuable communication link between home and school.

Homework is always related to study covered in class and can take a number of forms:

Reading	Topic lists	Questionnaires
Spelling	Music	Mental arithmetic
Mathematical problems	Factual writing	Poetry reciting
Handwriting	Research	Problem solving
Creative writing	Own research	Revising

Use of Reference Books	Interviews with adult's	Design Technology
Use of Library	Drawing/sketching	French

Reading is an essential part of homework and will feature in the work that is set for all year groups.

Amount of time spent on homework

The overall aim for setting homework throughout the school is to support extended learning and prepare each child for a smooth transfer to the next year of learning, including the transition to secondary school. The homework set is therefore a gradual build-up of time allocated from Year R to Year 6.

Emphasis is put on developing and extending Literacy and Numeracy skills and the use of learnt skills across the Foundation subjects. It is also of extreme importance to encourage the children to develop excellent reading habits by reading regularly.

Approximate amount of homework set per week

EYFS	30 minutes
Year 1	1 hour
Year 2	
Year 3	1 hour 30 minutes
Year 4	
Year 5	
Year 6	2 hours

Expectations

The teachers put a great deal of effort into planning, organising and checking homework. It is, therefore, essential that parents see homework as being important to their child's education. If there are any problems with homework parents are encouraged to contact the child's class teacher.

Homework should be completed to the standard normally expected in class and extra homework is acknowledged favourably and encouraged.

Pupils should

- Record work set in their homework book
- Complete and return homework by the set date.
- Complete work according to the high standards expected in school

Teachers should

- Set homework regularly according to the homework policy
- Have high expectations of pupils completing homework by the set date
- Explain homework clearly in class
- Give prompt and clear feedback on completed homework
- Maintain a consistent timetable for homework in order to help with the development of a regular pattern and a familiar routine.

Parents should

- Read and sign the homework book weekly

- Make a note in the homework book if exceptional circumstances have prevented homework being completed
- Encourage the development of study skills by organising a reasonably peaceful place for their children to do their homework
- Give appropriate support with their child's homework — the involvement of parents and carers in joint activities is valuable in promoting children's learning
- Support the school by valuing the homework set, explaining to their children how it can help the learning process and encouraging timely completion discuss any difficulties encountered with the class teacher.

How homework will be marked

Homework will always be marked and returned by the teacher but may not always receive a written comment. Any homework brought in after the deadline may not be marked.

Inclusion

Any issues regarding gender and /or disability are dealt directly in conjunction with guidelines from the DES (Disability Equality Scheme) and the Gender Equality Scheme.

Sanctions

We understand that there may be occasions when children are unable to complete their homework; in this instance a note in the homework book will be required. If a child does not have a valid reason for not completing homework and a note is not received the following procedure will take place:

- Pupil will be asked why it has not been handed in;
- If it is the first time they have failed to hand in homework they may be given an extension deadline at the discretion of the teacher;
- Parents will be informed;
- Pupil will complete the homework during play until it is complete;
- Pupils will not receive a reward point for that day

School support

The school recognises that sometimes there are reasons why homework cannot be completed at home. It will therefore provide an appropriate environment and time within school to allow children to complete their work before it is due to be handed in. Opportunities to complete homework during playtime and lunchtime will be offered to all pupils.

Additional documentation

All children, parents and carers will receive homework guidance that is specific to their class/year groups. An example of this can be found in the appendix.

Approved by the Governing Body

Signed:	_____ Chair of Governors –
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