

Homework Policy

Background

We believe homework consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding in numeracy, literacy and other curriculum areas; it helps raise the level of achievement of individual pupils and provides valuable opportunities for parents and children to work and learn together.

We value the support of parents/carers and we believe that this policy will be successful if there is a strong partnership between home and school which is reflected in the Home-School Agreement.

We recognise that all children need leisure time and hope that our policy reflects a balance so children can extend and consolidate their learning with parental support while still allowing 'down time.'

A breakdown of how homework is structured is provided below. This has been designed to encourage a gradual progression of skills and expectation so by the time children reach Year 6 they have established a clear routine in preparation for high school. Most of the homework is provided for completion over the course of a week, fortnight or term so it can be made to fit around family lifestyles and commitments. Other homework e.g. reading, multiplication tables, spellings are proven to be more effective when completed in shorter daily sessions.

Types of Homework

All homework tasks and activities are designed to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding in numeracy and literacy and enhance cross curricular teaching.

Feedback

All children receive prompt feedback on their homework in a variety of forms such as:

- verbal
- written
- class discussion

Parents are asked to:

- give teachers any feedback they feel might be useful;
- encourage their children to talk about the feedback they have received;
- contact the school promptly if they have any concerns.

Kingfishers Reception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will take home Spencer Bear (to write an account of their weekend to share in class) and/or Morris the Maths Monkey (to share maths activities) during the year. • Children have a sound folder. New sounds are added to learn. • Children have High Frequency words to learn. • Children should read at home at least three days a week and this should be recorded in the reading diary. • Children are asked to bring things in during the year to enhance focused activities. • Home learning challenge related to the theme of the week.
Kingfishers & Woodpeckers Years 1 & 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 1 & 2 have weekly spellings to learn. • Abacus maths homework is set weekly and is needed to be completed on a computer (or a maths worksheet) • Year 1 have High Frequency Words to learn • Year 1 have a literacy/topic challenge • Year 2 have literacy homework (e.g. grammar based) • Children should read at home at least three days a week and this should be recorded in the reading diary.
Owls Years 3 & 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will be given a list of spellings to learn • Abacus maths homework is set weekly and is needed to be completed on a computer or maths worksheet or Times Table Rockstars • A piece of literacy (e.g. grammar based) • Children are expected to read at least three times a week at home and this should be recorded in the reading diary.
Swans Year 5 & 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will be given a list of spellings to learn • Abacus maths homework is set weekly and is needed to be completed on a computer or maths worksheet or Times Table Rockstars • A piece of literacy (e.g. grammar based) • Children are expected to read for at least 20 minutes per evening and record this in their reading diary

Role of the Governing Body

The Governing Body has:

- delegated powers and responsibilities to the Headteacher to oversee the development of this policy;
- nominated curriculum governors who visit the school regularly, to liaise with the Headteacher and to report back to the Governing Body;
- responsibility for the effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy.

Role of the Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- promote this policy by raising its status and importance;
- ensure that homework is built into teachers planning;
- provide supportive guidance for parents;
- keep up to date with new developments with regard to homework;
- monitor and evaluate this policy

Role of the Teachers

Teachers must:

- integrate homework into their planning
- set interesting tasks or activities
- set homework appropriate to each child
- explain when, what and how the work is to be done so that each child clearly understands
- provide feedback in line with the marking and feedback policy

Role of Parents/Carers

Parents/carers are asked to:

- sign the Home-School Agreement indicating their support for homework
- praise the value of homework to their children
- provide a suitable space in their home where their children can concentrate on their homework
- establish a homework routine (such as no television)
- provide materials pens, pencils etc.
- go through the homework before their child starts and discuss the completed work when finished
- make the experience pleasurable
- find time to work with their child or be at hand if a problem arises
- discuss, encourage and praise their child's efforts
- contact the school if they are not sure of some aspect of the homework or if their child is experiencing difficulties in doing it

- contribute to school evaluation so the school can monitor and evaluate its effectiveness.

Role of Children

Children are asked to:

- complete their homework and hand it in on time
- listen carefully in class to make sure they understand what is asked of them
- contribute to pupil interviews and pupil questionnaires on homework for the school to monitor and evaluate
- make sure they get feedback on their homework
- highlight to the School Council any ideas they may have about homework
- complete their homework using appropriate writing materials
- have a go at all their homework activities

Monitoring the Effectiveness of the Policy

The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed annually or when the need arises, and the necessary recommendations for improvement will be made by the governors.