



## Homework Policy

This policy is based on Government guidelines which emphasise the importance of homework and how it supports your child's learning.

### Why is homework important?

It helps to develop the partnership between school and home.

It consolidates and extends skills, understanding and knowledge in all curriculum subjects

It helps to inform you about the work that is going on in school and gives you the opportunity to extend this through games, information finding etc

It raises your child's achievement

It encourages the children to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own, preparing them for the next stage of education.

### Aims

To ensure consistency of approach throughout the school

To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences

To ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account

To extend and support the learning experience via reinforcement and revision

To ensure that parents / carers have a clear understanding about expectations from themselves and their child

To begin to prepare pupils for future study needs

### What sort of activities should my children be doing?

All children will become more confident and fluent readers with practise and we encourage parents and carers to share books on a daily basis, if possible.

In addition to this your child may bring home word lists and spellings to practise as often as you can.

In Years 1 and 2 'Brain Builders' activities may be completed at home - these are a variety of topic related activities and you can choose to complete as many of them as you wish. Such homework should be brought into school to celebrate with the rest of the class and a sticker will be given as an award and to encourage the completion of further activities.

Year 2 'Challenge homework' for reading, writing and Maths will be given to Year 2 children from January onwards to help prepare them for the increase in homework upon transition to Junior school.

As a school we do not define how much time is spent on homework. Government guidelines are:

Reception - No guidelines / Year 1 and 2 - One hour per week

We recommend that little and often is the best way, making the experience as practical and enjoyable as possible.

If you feel that your child is struggling with their homework, then please see the class teacher, who will be happy to discuss the issue with you. Pupils with specific Special Educational Needs will receive work that is differentiated for them so that they can also contribute in a positive way.

If you feel that your child wants more homework then discuss that also - we will always encourage children who want to challenge themselves and take control of their learning!

#### How can you help your child to learn?

It is important that you try and set aside a few minutes each day to support your child's learning - it is a great opportunity to help make the link for them between home and school and enable them to see that learning is part of life and not just something that is done 'in school'!

#### You can help your child to learn by:

Giving lots of praise and encouragement - Comments such as "I like the way you have" is more effective than "well done"

Read, read, read! Listen to your child read, read to them at bed-time and encourage them to enjoy looking at books by themselves.

Encourage your child to talk about what they see, feel, think etc - develop their language skills by teaching them new words and explaining their meaning

Trying to have a 'routine' for homework and a place to 'work' - make sure there are no distractions and switch off the TV, radio and mobile phones!

Encourage your child to discuss homework and feedback from teachers with you - but remember that if your child gets a spelling wrong in a test it does not make them a poor speller, it usually just means that they are not confident in sitting a 'test'!

Remembering that the process is more important than the outcome - When we learn to read or spell it is the process of blending the sounds to read or breaking them down [segmenting] to spell that is the skill.

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for ensuring that there is a consistent approach to homework throughout the schools and for consulting with Governors and parents on the policy implementation.

Class teachers are responsible for the organisation of homework

The home school agreement outlines the role of parents

Reviewed: September 2014

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