

# Homework

## Introduction

Homework or home activities can make an important contribution to children's progress at school. Homework makes the greatest contribution to learning when:

- Children and parents are very clear about what they need to do.
- Parents are active partners in their children's learning.
- There is a regular programme so that teachers, children and parents know what to expect each week.
- The children are given feedback, both verbal and through marking of the work.

## Aims of homework:

- Develop an effective partnership between school, children and parents.
- Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy.
- Extend school learning.
- Encourage progression towards independence and individual responsibility.
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work together to enjoy learning experiences.
- At Year 6, to prepare children for secondary transfer.

## Type and amount of homework appropriate for children of different ages

- Reception - Reading at least twice a week, but preferably more. Ideally, children should be reading **daily**.  
Learn sounds/key words that the teacher has given them.
- Year 1 - Reading at least twice a week, but preferably more. Ideally, children should be reading **daily**.  
Learn sounds/key words that the teacher has given them.
- Year 2 - Reading at least twice a week, but preferably more. Ideally, children should be reading **daily**.  
Learn key words/spellings that the teacher has given them.  
- Optional Maths homework will be given periodically.
- Key Stage 1 - Parents also have weekly numeracy and literacy objectives written up on the parent noticeboard /window. Parents often choose to do some fun activities with their child or talk to them regarding the objectives
- Year 3/4 - 20 minutes shared/independent reading **daily**.

- Mathematic task **weekly**.
- Spellings **weekly**.
- Other topic/science/language activities **occasionally**.

- Year 5
- **Daily** quiet reading of library book/reading book
  - Mathematics task will be given out **weekly** on Thursdays to be returned on the following Monday.
  - Science task will be given out **weekly** on Wednesday to be handed in on the following Wednesday.
  - Spellings will be given out **weekly** on a Wednesday, the spelling test being on the following Wednesday.
  - Topic based homework **occasionally**.
  - Independent home-school project across **Spring Term**

- Years 6
- 20-30 minutes **daily**, one of the following: English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities, Spellings/Reading.
  - See homework timetable stuck into the front of Homework diary
  - Independent home-school project across **Autumn Term**

## **S.E.N.**

The aims of homework outlined earlier apply equally to children with S.E.N. Our aim is to formulate tasks that will:

- Have a clear focus and time guidance.
- Give plenty of opportunities for pupils to succeed.

## **The Role of Parents**

- Parents need to provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which children can do their homework alone or with an adult.
- Parents need to make it clear to their child that they value homework, and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning.
- Encourage children and praise them when they have completed homework.
- Parents of younger children need to become actively involved in joint homework activities with children.

## **Feedback and contact between parents, children and teachers**

- Children will receive appropriate feedback from teachers as quickly as possible.
- Home/school contact book (Foundation and Key Stage 1), and homework diaries (Key Stage 2) will provide a useful link between the school and parents.
- Outline homework plan to be provided at the beginning of the school year.

## **Monitoring and evaluating policy**

- Review samples of home-school contact books and homework diaries
- Review of assignments and marking of work on a regular basis.
- The key criteria for effectiveness of this policy will be to what extent this policy is contributing to the progress pupils make at school and their attitude to learning.