



Homework Policy

Revised by: Mr N Tomlinson & Board of Governors
Date: September 2017

Date	Policy reviewed:	Policy amended:
September 2019		
September 2021		
September 2013		



It is the policy of this school to give homework. We as a staff believe that homework

- is an important extension of classwork
- reinforces children's learning
- encourages independent learning
- fosters self-discipline
- provides children with opportunities to revise and consolidate their learning
- provides opportunities for children to develop research and study skills
- establishes a link between home and school and enables parents to become involved in their child's education
- makes parents more aware of their child's ability and achievements
- fosters good communication between teachers and parents and keeps parents informed of (i) the progress of their child (ii) the content of classwork
- Prepares children for the expectations of secondary schools

When setting homework teachers will give considerations to:

1. the relevance of the homework to classroom learning
2. the individual interests and abilities of the pupil
3. the developmental level of each pupil
4. the facilities and resources available to pupils out of school
5. the special difficulties which confront some children

Homework activities will include reading, writing, and rote learning (e.g. tables, spellings and on occasions poems, rhymes). As a result of class topics, investigative work and research may be included e.g. questionnaires, interviews, gathering data, collecting materials for use in class.

Staff believe that reading is an essential part of homework and parents are encouraged, from Primary 1, to read regularly with and to their children using a variety of sources e.g. class reading book, library book, newspapers, comics etc.

The length of time spent on homework will depend on the nature of the task set and the developmental level of each child.

Parents should ensure that the homework given is completed and sign the child's work. They should also be aware of how long it takes the child to complete the homework. The class teacher should be informed if the child is having difficulty with the tasks given. A note should be sent to the class teacher if the child for any reason has been unable to do the homework. Where there are persistent problems with homework the parent is encouraged to contact the class teacher. If this is the case and the child is becoming distressed, we ask the parent to please sign the homework after a reasonable length of time has been spent completing the task and send it in to the class teacher unfinished. No child is ever expected to spend all night struggling over homework!

Written homework will normally be set from Monday to Thursday. Children in Primary 6 and Primary 7 will be expected to do reading homework at weekends. Pupils are encouraged to read independently or with their parents every night.

Teachers will mark the children's homework on a regular basis and will take note of incomplete or inadequate work presented.



It is important that, as far as possible, children work independently. Parents should be supportive and encouraging while assisting children with homework. They should encourage good presentation and speed in completing tasks.

On a few occasions throughout the term, at the teachers' discretion, no homework will be given.

ADVICE FOR PARENTS

Homework is important – your child should attempt as much as possible on his/her own but.....

TIME SPENT

LISTENING to your child
TALKING to your child
READING to your child
EXPLAINING to your child
ENCOURAGING your child

IS TIME WELL SPENT

We would encourage parents to set aside **quality time**

- to check the Homework each evening to find out what work has been set
- to listen to reading and talk about what has been read
- to ask spellings and mental maths
- to check written work ensuring that it has been completed satisfactorily
- to sign homeworks

GENERAL ASPECTS OF HOMEWORK

We would ask parents to co-operate with the school in ensuring that homework is satisfactorily completed on a daily basis and signed. Time and space should be set aside for homework, free from all distractions, including the television.

Reading is an integral part of life. It is important that children are given the opportunity to read aloud to parents and to discuss books which they have read.

QUALITY TIME SPENT WITH BOOKS IS INVALUABLE. It is vital to foster an interest in, and a love of, reading.

The teachers have agreed the following guidelines for homework in each class. We endeavour to provide a progressive, developmental framework which becomes gradually more 'formal' as the child moves up through the school from Early Years to Key Stage Two. If you find that your child is having difficulty completing homework tasks, please let the class teacher know.



PRIMARY 1

No formal homework is given, but it is vital to foster a love of books and an enjoyment in reading at this early stage. We would encourage parents to spend some quiet time each day to share books with your child.

At the beginning of Primary 1 your child will bring home picture books which you should share with him/her, discussing the story through the pictures. They will also bring home story sacks, with activities and games to share with parents.

In the Spring Term, children will begin to bring home books from the school reading scheme and will progress through the scheme at their pace based on their ability and stage of development. This will continue through the Summer Term.

PRIMARY 2

In the First Term Primary 2 children will bring home story sacks to share with their parents.

Parents should spend time listening to their child read from the books he or she brings home on a daily basis. This is most effective when done in several short sessions, with discussion about what they have read, giving praise and encouragement. Children will practice key words through literacy games in school.

In Primary 2 your child will begin to learn phonics (this is the sound each letter makes). When reading with your children, encourage them to attempt a new word by saying the letter sounds, especially the sound of the first letter in the word. (Do not refer to the letters of a word by the letter names, as this confuses the children when beginning to learn letter sounds, which are vital for attempting new words.)

Literacy and Numeracy games will be taken home in Term Two and Three.

PRIMARY 3

Homework including reading is set Monday to Thursday. The following assignments will be set for your child.

SPELLINGS

Initially 3 and later 4 spellings will be set Monday to Wednesday, with revision on a Thursday night.

NUMBER

Number bonds relevant to class work will be set Monday to Wednesday with revision on a Thursday night.

READING

The nature and level of the books given out is based on the child's ability. Time should be given to listen to your child read aloud, to look at difficult words and to discuss the reading, to ensure that the child is getting meaning from the text.

A round up of week's spellings and tables will take place on Fridays.



PRIMARY 4

Homework is set Monday to Thursday, with reading only at the weekend. The following assignments will be set for your child:

WRITTEN HOMEWORK

A written homework in one area of the curriculum will be set each day, Monday to Thursday, in Term 2, and will mainly centre around class work. Homeworks should be signed.

SPELLINGS

The number of spellings set each day will depend on the child's level of ability. Revision on a Thursday night should be done in preparation for Friday tests.

MENTAL MATHS

Mental Maths relevant to class work will be set Monday to Wednesday with revision on a Thursday night.

READING

The level of the book and amount set related to child's ability. Time should be given to listen to your child read, to look at difficult words and to discuss meaning.

A round up of week's spellings and tables will take place on Fridays.

PRIMARY 5, 6, 7.

Homework is set Monday to Thursday. Reading tasks will also be set for the weekend. The following assignments are set for your child:

WRITTEN HOMEWORK

In addition to the mental maths, spelling and reading work, a homework in one area of the curriculum will be set each evening, Monday to Thursday. All homework should be signed.

SPELLINGS

The number of spellings set each day will depend on the child's level of ability. Revision on a Thursday night will should be done in preparation for Friday tests.

MENTAL MATHS

Mental Maths relevant to class work will be set Monday to Wednesday with revision on a Thursday night.

READING Time

The levels of the books sent home are related to child's ability. should be spent discussing the reading material, checking understanding. Reading activities will be set for the weekends as well as each week night.

The above framework will be followed for all P5, 6 and 7 children, with the tasks differentiated to meet the learning needs of all groups.



Please initial the homework diary and all written homeworks

This broad information, taken in conjunction with the daily taken home with your child, should keep parents fully informed.

A round up of week's spellings and tables will take place on Fridays.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. M. Lewis'.

Chair, Board of Governors