

Introduction:

We believe homework consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding in numeracy, literacy and other curriculum areas, helps raise the level of achievement of individual pupils, provides opportunities for parents and children to work together and, thereby, fostering an effective partnership between home and school.

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 free time.

Aims of this policy:

- To ensure that parents/carers are clear about what their child is expected to do.
- To ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- To use homework as a tool to help continue to raise standards of attainment.
- To improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment.
- To provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning.
- To encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- To reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning.
- To practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in Numeracy and Literacy.
- To encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
- To prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school.

Homework tasks:

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 secondary school.

EYFS-Reception (Eden):

- RWI sounds/words
- Action words
- Maths Challenges

KS1 (Hendra and Prosper):

- Reading – x3 per week

- English activity - weekly
- Maths – weekly
- Topic (where appropriate)

Lower KS2 (Karslake and Melbur):

- Reading – x5 per week
- English (spellings) – weekly
- Maths (times tables) – weekly
- Topic (where appropriate)

Upper KS2 (Drinnick and Rosemellyn):

- Reading – x5 per week
- English (spellings) – weekly
- Maths (times tables) – weekly
- Topic (where appropriate)

Homework folders are used in EYFS and KS1, and homework books are used in KS2 (except Drinnick who will do their homework online using Education City). All homework will be marked and will remain in homework folders.

It should be noted that homework should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the pupil's family. If parents/carers have any concerns they should not hesitate to contact the school.

Incentives for completing homework:

- Stickers are awarded to pupils that hand homework in on time each week.
- Small prizes are awarded to those that fill up their reading charts.

Consequences for not completing homework:

EYFS and KS1 – discussion with parents/carers about the importance of completing homework tasks with their child.

KS2 – homework more than 1 day late will need to be completed at lunchtime. Pupils that do not read 5 times a week will need to do independent reading at break or lunchtime.

ROLE OF THE CLASS TEACHER/TEACHING ASSISTANT:

- To provide an explanation of homework tasks.
- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- To ensure homework is purposeful.
- To reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks.
- To mark homework when necessary and give feedback to pupils.

ROLE OF THE HEADTEACHER AND GOVERNING BODY:

- To check compliance of the Policy.
- To meet and talk with parents when appropriate.
- Inform new parents to the school so that they are aware of the home school agreement and what it entails.

ROLE OF PARENTS/CARERS:

- To sign the home school agreement which details a commitment to homework.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out homework.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed homework.
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities.
- To make it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.

ROLE OF CHILDREN:

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

If children are absent due to long term illness we will not send homework home. We would assume the child was too ill to work. If a child is well enough to complete tasks at home, the teacher and the parent will agree what should be done, how it should be marked and what sort of help needs to be given. In such circumstances the teacher should consult the headteacher first.

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 to the governors.

Policy reviewed: September 2016

Policy reviewed by: Carly Wicks (Headteacher)

Policy approved by Governors: Curriculum Committee November 2016

Next review: September 2017