



Homework Policy



WHITE WOMAN LANE SCHOOL

ENCOURAGEMENT WORKS BEST AND SUCCESS BREEDS SUCCESS

HOMEWORK POLICY

General Statement

As a school community, we are called to provide a broad and balanced curriculum and effective learning opportunities for all pupils. We seek to support our children in attaining the highest standards they are capable of, so that they achieve 'excellence' in their own terms.

Homework helps pupils to develop their learning skills. It demonstrates our school's commitment to academic progress and our determination that pupils achieve their best. It should be a positive reinforcement of school learning, to develop a sense of responsibility for their own learning, as well as preparation for the pupil's future school career, and increasingly need to work independently, as they grow older and into adulthood.

At our school we believe that homework has a significant part to play in the academic development of the child and that it is helpful to parents to provide some understanding of the work and age related expectations in each age group.

National Guidelines

Evidence from [Education Endowment Foundation's](#) Teaching and Learning Toolkit indicates that primary schools which set more homework tend to perform better. It is suggested that gains that may be up to two months per academic year.

Policy Aims

Homework at our school will:

- provide opportunities for parental engagement, assisting parents in developing understanding of their child as an academic learner
- assist pupils in learning the skills of planning and organising time, thus building foundations of the importance of independent study needed for the future.
- develop good habits and self-discipline
- encourage ownership and responsibility for one's own learning
- provide opportunities for individualised work
- allow assessment of pupils' progress in fully independent tasks
- provide opportunity for practice and consolidation of classwork
- provide the opportunity to prepare for future classwork
- encourage skills in using libraries and other resources.
- create channels for home/school dialogue
- fulfil expectations of parents, pupils and teachers.

Teaching and Learning Objectives

Homework is by definition work that takes place outside the school environment and is valuable in developing good habits of independent study and self-discipline as well as further academic developments. Pupils have a responsibility to complete all homework on time and to the best of their ability.

There are various different ways in which homework is set in order to achieve our aims for example:

- regular reading which is recorded in reading diaries
- individual focused learning by heart (e.g. spellings or times tables)
- preparation in advance of a unit of work.
- self-contained tasks (part of a project).
- planned tasks built into a programme of work.
- completion of classwork, providing opportunity to spend time and go into depth
- reinforcement or consolidation of an aspect of classwork.
- recording and presenting work in an attractive manner.

Meeting Children's Differing Needs

At our school, we believe that children should have the opportunity to achieve the highest standard of which they are capable.

Homework tasks should be:

- differentiated where necessary by task, outcome or time.
- within the capacity of pupils' or home resources.
- clear in purpose.
- clear in instruction.
- When planning and giving homework, we will set suitable learning challenges, respond to pupils' diverse learning needs and overcome potential barriers to learning and assessment.

Record Keeping and Assessment

- Teachers will record homework set as part of their planning.
- Teachers and TAs should ensure that pupils are clear how to record tasks set and evidence their reading in their homework diaries.
- Tasks should be appropriately followed up through discussion or handing in of homework diaries, written work to be marked or through pupil self- or peer-assessment.

Parental Engagement

The involvement of parents in supporting their children's academic learning should include:

- general approaches which encourage parents to support their children with, for example regular reading at home (reading homework) or other homework to further support learning in class;
- the involvement of parents in their children's learning activities.

At our school we regard it as essential that parents support their children in order that homework is successfully completed. Most of our families are well-able to do so, and those that may have any difficulty with this are encouraged to discuss this with senior staff in the first place.

All parents will have access to the Homework Policy via the school website.

Pupils in Years 3 to 6 will keep a reading diary as a clear record of their reading. The reading diary is also an important channel of communication. Teachers will welcome feedback from parents and carers on their child's experience of completing their reading.

When homework is not completed, the child will be expected to complete the home work during break time or lunchtime. This is to promote good homework habits and encourage good organisational skills. It also provides opportunity for the class teacher to check if there were any barriers to understanding or misconceptions individually. If homework is regularly missing, late or of a poor standard the class teacher will arrange a meeting with the child and their parents to discuss ways of supporting the child to complete their homework satisfactorily.

If on a rare occasion, a child will be unable to complete homework, parents are asked to put a note in the homework diary or talk to the class teacher before the deadline and a new time can be set.

Homework Guidelines by Year Group

Year 3

Homework is based on literacy and numeracy with occasional assignments in other subjects. This includes a minimum 15 minutes reading per day and includes learning tables and spelling lists.

Year 4

Homework is based on literacy and numeracy with occasional assignments in other subjects. This includes a minimum 15 minutes reading per day and includes learning tables and spelling lists.

Year 5

Homework is based on a regular weekly schedule with continued emphasis on literacy and numeracy with occasional assignments in other subjects. This includes a minimum 15 minutes reading per day, spelling lists and tables as appropriate and other work appropriate to the needs of the children.

Year 6

Homework is based on a regular weekly schedule with continued emphasis on literacy and numeracy with occasional assignments in other subjects. This includes a minimum 20 minutes reading per day, spelling lists and tables as appropriate and other work appropriate to the needs of the children.