

HOMWORK POLICY

HOMWORK IS ANY WORK OR ACTIVITY, WHICH CHILDREN ARE ASKED TO DO OUTSIDE SCHOOL EITHER ON THEIR OWN OR WITH PARENTS.

AIMS

Homework develops a partnership between school and home and is considered to be a valuable element of the teaching and learning process.

Children are encouraged to work at home on a regular basis to:

- consolidate and reinforce skills in literacy and numeracy
- find out information by using the library or information communication technology
- read in order to prepare for lessons
- develop confidence and self discipline
- prepare them for High School.

PRINCIPLES AND STRATEGIES

The children will follow a regular programme so that everyone knows what to expect each week.

Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Effective homework is a partnership between parents and school.

Regular homework is important since it gives pupils the opportunity to practice at home the tasks done in class, and helps the pupils work towards improving important skills. It also helps children to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help throughout their time at school, and in adult life.

In the main, the focus of homework is on the important skills of literacy and numeracy. The older children in school are given other tasks such as finding out and preparing information as well as traditional writing tasks. This helps to ease the transfer to secondary schools.

The suggested time of 30 minutes a day for Years 5 and 6 does include work spent on tables, reading and spelling. Reading and tables are the responsibility of the parents, ensuring their children practice these important areas. Children are reminded regularly by teachers to practice at home.

RECEPTION

In Reception children will bring home a reading book twice a week for you to share. At the beginning of each term a topic coverage sheet is sent home with suggestions of activities that could support your child's learning in school. Occasionally we will send home practical activities for you to do with your child.

KEY STAGE 1

All children in years 1 and 2 will be given weekly homework. This will involve the learning of words/spellings which will be sent home in a special book.

Where appropriate, work involving basic skills will also be sent home. Children may also bring home flash cards or word lists containing Key words from Letters and Sounds. The children are expected to spend 10 minutes a day on this.

All children in Key Stage 1 are expected to spend time reading every day using their reading book as well as other reading materials. Parents can help children read by:

- reading a variety of stories together
- talking about the stories you read
- letting them see you read
- writing lists and notes together
- helping them read signs and labels
- visiting the local library
- sharing songs and rhymes
- listening to story tapes talking about things they are doing

From time to time there may be a topic related activity set for the children.

KEY STAGE 2

Spelling, tables and handwriting should be practised throughout the week and tests will be given weekly.

Year 3 and 4 - will be given one piece of homework. The task should take, at most 50 minutes to complete. On occasions children may be given a few weeks to complete the task. On these occasions parents will be told how much time is expected to be spent on the task.

Year 5 and 6 - - will be given two pieces, or the equivalent, of 1 to 1.5 hours each week.

The class teacher will specify when this work has to be handed in.

In addition parents are expected to encourage their children to access and use the Mathematics computer programme which the school subscribes to in Years 5 and 6.

From time to time, children may be given additional homework activities e.g. to support further learning in the classroom or as preparation for assessment.

Tasks for Key Stage 2 could be:

- book reviews
- topic related tasks
- science
- finding out information
- extra reading in preparation for lessons
- preparing oral presentations
- written assignment

Homework tasks will be varied and will reflect what goes on in the classroom.

All children in Key Stage 2 are expected to spend time reading every day. . Parents can help children read by

- reading with them from books, newspapers, magazines and 'The Internet' and talking with them about the ideas or information they contain
- encouraging them to read every day print – newspapers. TV guides, cook books etc
- visiting the library
- giving them plenty of chances to write, for example, lists notes and letters.

| RECOMMENDED TIME ALLOCATION FOR DAILY READING ACTIVITIES | |
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| RECEPTION | 10 minutes |
| YEARS 1 AND 2 | 20 minutes |
| YEARS 3 AND 4 | 20 minutes |
| YEARS 5 AND 6 | 20 minutes |

If you have any questions about homework please contact your child's class teacher