



Our Homework Policy

UN CRC Article 28

All children have the right to a primary education

Adopted: May 2018
Due for Review: May 2021

Rational

In our school homework is considered an integral part of the curriculum. It enriches, revises and consolidates work completed in school. It also gives parents an insight into the standard of work being completed in class and what their child is capable of. It is therefore important that everyone involved encourages, supports and follows the school's policy on homework. It is assumed that by enrolling a child into our learning environment that parents are accepting of the homework policy and intend to support it at each stage of their child's education.

Homework need not necessarily be a written exercise; it is any task to be completed at home e.g. reading, learning spellings and tables, research, learning a poem or practising for assemblies or performances.

It is our policy to mark and provide positive and meaningful feedback for homework that is satisfactorily completed and handed in on the appropriate day. In situations where homework is considered to be below standard or incomplete, a pupil will be asked to correct or repeat the work. Failing this he or she at the discretion of the Principal and in line with our school Positive Behaviour Policy, will be asked to complete or redo the task during break or lunchtime detention.

Aims:

1. To aid each pupils' progress towards achieving his or her full potential.
2. To promote independent learning
3. To keep parents informed of and involved in children's progress and application

Objectives:

1. To provide a purposeful supplement to class work
2. To provide opportunities for the pupil to practise what has been learnt in class.
3. To allow parents to be involved
4. To encourage pupils to take responsibility for their own learning

Guidelines:

- Homework will normally be given for Monday to Thursday evenings, but there are exceptions at certain times of the year; these being agreed in advance by the school leadership.
- When a child is off for a period of time due to illness, parents may obtain homework from the class teacher on request. Alternatively, the child should continue with spellings, reading and tables while at home as this will ensure continuity.
- Pupils are not encouraged to go on holiday during term time. Those who do we would encourage them to continue with independent reading or other work.
- Incomplete or homework completed unsatisfactorily, will be returned as soon as possible by the teacher for completion or correction at home.
- A failure to complete homework will require homework to be completed the following night at home or failing that in school at break or lunchtime and thus treated under the school's positive behaviour policy.

- Homework completed within Buddies After School Day Care will be in line with the Summary guidelines below and parents will be expected to check and sign as normal. Children will not do reading and mental maths activities in Buddies as this is good for children and parent bonding and for parents to gain an understanding of their child's strengths or areas for development.

Holiday Preparations & Exceptions:

Normal homework provision will occur each and every week of school term. Near to the end of term, in the final week, and on occasions when our children are expected to come into school for a performance etc there will be no written homework set for that night.

Roles and Responsibilities:

Learning is a shared responsibility between pupils, parents and teachers.

Teachers' Responsibilities:

1. To provide suitably differentiated tasks
2. To ensure that pupils and parents have a clear understanding of the task set.
3. To mark work and provide positive and constructive feedback.
4. To keep the principal informed about concerns.

Pupils' Responsibilities:

1. Where age appropriate (P4-P7): To record accurately, in their Homework Diary, the correct homework.
2. To take home the appropriate books, sheets and materials.
3. To hand work in on time.
4. To complete work as instructed and present it neatly.
5. To pack their bag, at home the night before, and come to school prepared for all the next day's activities eg. sports, music, clubs etc.
6. To ensure that work is handed in on time.

Parents' Responsibilities:

1. To provide a suitable quiet working atmosphere.
2. To supervise homework tasks.
3. To check homework notes to find out what tasks have been set.
4. To listen to reading and talk about what has been read.
5. To listen and discuss strategies in mental maths homework.
6. To listen to and discuss other oral homework (e.g. spellings, talks and poems).
7. To encourage children to persevere with tasks and continually give of their best.
8. Check written homework ensuring that the assignment has been completed and the parent is happy with the standard and presentation.

Support Note: Homework should not develop into a conflict situation between parent and child. Nor should homework develop into a situation where the parent becomes a teacher. If either of these situations develop your child's teacher should be contacted immediately so that the problem can be resolved.

Please see below for a summary of what we expect to set for Homework and the length of time it should take:

Summary of General Homework Guidelines

Year	Tasks	Homework Time (Approx. Per Night)
Primary 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will be involved in a range of activities as guided by the teachers. 	15 minutes
Primary 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading, Spellings and High Frequency Words Monday to Thursday • Spelling, Number Facts and other written tasks will be introduced throughout the year. (Relevant information notes will be sent home) 	Approx. 20minutes
Primary 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading, Spellings/High Frequency Words AND Number Facts • Written/Practical Homework Mon-Wed (Lit/Num./World Around Us/Handwriting). • Friday Test in Spellings & Number Facts 	20 - 30 minutes
Primary 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spellings, Number Facts & Reading • Written Homework • Friday Test - spellings and number facts 	25 – 30 minutes
Primary 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spellings, Number Facts & Independent Reading • Written Homework • Friday Test - spellings and number facts 	30-45 minutes approximately
Primary 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spellings, Number Facts & Independent Reading • Written/Creative Homework or Transfer Preparation Work (March onward) • Friday Test - spellings and number facts 	30-45 minutes (longer if undertaking Transfer preparation)
Primary 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spellings, Number Facts & Independent Reading • Written Homework or Transfer Preparation Work (Sept to Nov.) • Friday Test - spellings and number facts • Transfer Preparation Work for all children who will be sitting AQE 	45-60 minutes (longer if undertaking Transfer preparation)