



HOMework POLICY

What is the purpose of homework?

- To consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding.
- To allow parents to gain an understanding of what children are learning in school.
- To allow children to progress towards becoming more independent learners responsible for their own learning.

What is the role of the teacher?

- To plan, set, mark and give feedback about homework.
- To be available to talk to parents and children about homework and inform them as necessary.

What is the role of the parents?

- To ensure the child has access to Edmodo and to print homework sheets.
- To ensure the child completes homework to high standard and hands it in on time.
- To provide the appropriate conditions for the child to complete the homework.
- To provide the appropriate resources for the child to complete the homework.

What is the role of the child?

- To put the same level of effort as would be expected of class work.
- To hand the homework in on time.
- To take on board any feedback about homework.

What type of homework will my child get?

Reading:

Children have a reading book that is changed every week. They will bring their reading books home every evening and the role of adults is to listen and support them. It is important to remind them to use different strategies to read new words. i.e, using their phonological knowledge to sound words out, blending, segmenting words, deciphering from the rest of the sentence and looking at the pictures, are ways in which the children can read an unknown word. It is also important that the parents discuss the book to check that the child has understood what they have read in order to develop the child's comprehension.

Spelling and High Frequency Words

Up to 12 spelling words are given on a weekly basis to develop children's recognition and automaticity when reading and writing in the English language.

Children are given spelling words to build up their recognition of similar spelling patterns eg. ou, th, igh. They are also given a few high frequency sight words where there may be no pattern, or the letters in the word do not easily blend together. It is vital that children review these words regularly in order to develop their reading and spelling automaticity, in order to become more fluent and confident in using them across their learning.

Learning spelling does not always have to be learned by writing the words on a spelling worksheet. The spelling activity will change in order to make spelling more exciting. It is important that the parents also help by testing the child regularly on the current spelling words as well as the words from previous weeks.

Grammar

A grammar worksheet may be sent home to help consolidate the grammar rules learned within the class that week. This grammar rule will have already been taught and the child should continue to practice using this rule on the work given. An important aspect of consolidating grammar is to be able to explain it and therefore parents should ask questions to deepen their child's understanding.

Maths

Children will be given a piece of Maths homework to develop important numeracy skills or mathematical concepts. Teachers will sometimes send home resources to help with these, however it is encouraged that parents help children by providing them with mathematical equipment or posters as visual representation.

Your child can bring their Maths textbook home with them and even if they have finished their homework, they can use their textbook to revise previously learned materials. The parent could set them the task of explaining or reviewing a page the child has previously completed. This continuous revision will support their long-term memory and help them build and continue foundations before bridging them to the next topic.

Science / History / Geography

Children may occasionally receive Science, History or Geography homework linked to the topic they are learning in class. This may be in the form of a worksheet, a poster, a formal verbal presentation or a practical activity.

My child is in EYFS. How does their homework differ from Primary?

Children in EYFS (Foundation 1 and 2) receive homework, however these are optional tasks and not enforced. For children of this age, it is important that they receive plenty of opportunities to play and socialise with others. Role play, small world play and socialisation with others is important in building their vocabulary, confidence, social skills and imagination and extension work and additional homework will therefore not be given.

Children in EYFS may receive phonics activities to use at home in order to practice basic, phonological skills. This may incorporate letter sounds and some key spelling words, which will not exceed more than 5 words per week. The children may also receive numeracy work to develop their understanding of early number skills.

My child is in KS3. How does their homework differ from Primary?

Students in KS3 have more responsibility within their subjects. KS3 students are given homework by their subject teachers and the quantity and frequency will vary depending on the units they are learning. Should students struggle with their homework they should approach their subject teacher for extra support.

How much time should be spent on homework?

EYFS	Optional Homework – No more than 15 minutes every night
Key Stage 1	No more than 30 minutes every night
Key Stage 2	No more than 50 minutes every night
Key Stage 3	No more than 1 hour 15 minutes every night

Parents and Homework

Parents are encouraged to help guide children with their homework should they need it and give further explanation. It is important that the child completes the homework themselves and should be encouraged to work independently to complete the tasks set. Parents should not complete the homework for the children, even if the homework is found too difficult. If parents have any issues with homework they should raise their concerns with the class teacher initially or make an appointment to see the child's Key Stage Leader.

Will my child be given extra homework?

Children, at times may be given additional homework. Children who take part in ASP, SEN or are on additional programmes to help them progress may sometimes be set extra homework to reinforce the work being done.

My child wants more homework! What do I do?

There are many websites that offer fun and exciting extension tasks for children to develop their knowledge further in a fun way. They may not see this as learning or homework tasks as they are game based. This is a fantastic way to continue your child's learning at home.

Maths	English	Science
www.sumdog.com www.mathplayground.com www.primarygames.com/math.php www.pbskids.org/games/math/ www.softschools.com www.educationcity.com www.topmarks.co.uk www.coolmath.com www.education.com/games/math www.mathletics.com *	www.readtheory.org www.readworks.org www.topmarks.co.uk www.educationcity.com www.learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/fun-games www.funenglishgames.com/games.html www.grammaropolis.com www.education.com/games/grammar	www.discoverykids.com www.sciencenewsforstudents.org www.planet-science.com www.sciencekids.co.nz

*Requires a subscription.

Will my child be given classwork to complete at home?

This should not happen without speaking with the parents first. However, children who persistently do not complete their work in class will be asked to complete it during their lunch break with the teacher. The parents will be alerted to this.

Will the homework be marked?

The homework will be checked and marked by the teacher. Where necessary feedback will be given in written or verbal form to the child. If homework is handed in late, the homework will not be marked.

What happens if my child does not hand in their homework?

A homework record is kept by every teacher to track when homework is handed in, not handed in or is late. If homework is persistently not handed in, the class teacher will make the parent aware. The children's report card will reflect the overall effort level throughout the term. If for any reason children are unable to complete their homework, parents should provide the class teacher with a note in the child's planner or an email explaining why the homework has not been completed on the day the homework was due to be returned to school. This will help the teacher understand if the homework is not at the right level for the children or if that particular child needs more support.

Homework Tips for Parents

- **Show an interest in your child's homework assignments.** Ask about the subjects and the work to be done.
- **Be a role model** -- take the opportunity to read a book or newspaper while your child studies. Reading together helps create a learning atmosphere.
- **Teach your child how to be organised.** Be sure he or she keeps a homework assignment book.
- **Eliminate as many distractions as possible during study time.**
- **Develop a strategy for dealing with homework.** Find a plan that works for your family and stick with it.
- **Try to relate the homework to your child's everyday life.** For instance, fractions and measurements can be learned as the child prepares a favourite food.
- **Encourage your child to establish a regular time to do homework.** Developing a schedule might help avoid procrastination.
- **Meet with your child's teacher** to discuss the nature of the approach to reading, spelling and other topics that your child is being taught.
- **Make sure your child has a specific place to do homework** that offers ample lighting, minimal noise and plenty of work space.
- **Praise your child** for successfully completing homework. Nothing builds self-esteem like praise from parents.