

Homework Policy



Rationale

Homework: *“Any work or activity which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents/carers”.*

Purposes of homework

1. To improve, consolidate and reinforce essential basic skills and understanding in the core subjects of English and Maths, and other areas of curriculum when appropriate.
2. To support the development of independent work skills.
3. To develop an effective link between home and school, providing parents with the opportunity to support their child’s learning and development

Homework guidelines

Homework guidelines will be communicated to parents at Nursery and Reception induction meetings and at the beginning of the academic year in “Meet the Teacher” meetings for years 1 to 6.

Nursery: Finding relevant items from home
Phonics – initial sounds activity

Reception: Home reading with your child, ideally daily
Phonics books – weekly
Tricky/high frequency word pots – weekly

KS1 & KS2: *Maths practice and reinforcement on the topic covered that week will be available on ActiveLearn, an online platform for pupils. If you wish to practice written calculations with your child, guidance on how these are taught in each year group can be found in the school’s Calculation Policy to support your work at home. This policy, in addition to a range of activities and links to educational sites available to pupils to extend their learning at home, can be found on the school’s MLE (Managed Learning Environment) in the “Homework” Room. Occasionally, teachers will suggest an additional activity to support current learning e.g. find out about..... which will not be marked by the teacher, but shared in class.*

Year 1: Finding relevant items from home
Home reading (ideally, daily)
Phonics/spelling activity
Practice of maths facts

Year 2: Spellings – weekly
Home reading (ideally, daily)
Practice of maths facts

- Year 3: Spellings – weekly
Maths – weekly
Home reading (aim for 4 times a week)
- Year 4: Spellings – weekly
Maths – weekly
Home reading (aim for 4 times a week)
- Year 5: Spellings – weekly
Maths – weekly
Home reading (aim for 4 times a week)
- Year 6: Maths – ActiveLearn weekly and other tasks as appropriate
Spellings – weekly
Reading Activity Journal
Reading – pupils must read at least 3 times a week for 20 minutes (4 times for Star Reader)
Sats revision (as appropriate)

A Special Word About Reading

Reading should be considered as a daily activity for all children. For younger pupils this will be ‘sharing’ a book with your child, that is, talking about a book, reading to them and hearing them read for a short time. Older children should be given the time and the space to read independently for enjoyment and they may still wish for you to read to them! We cannot urge strongly enough to do this. The little and often approach to practice, consolidation and enjoyment in this way can work wonders.

The school also runs a Star Reader programme which looks to motivate and encourage children to read regularly at home. To take part, each child needs to **read 4 or more times a week and record this in their reading journal**. There is an award scheme for this programme, for bronze, silver and gold-level Star Readers.

Time

It is difficult to judge how much time should be spent on homework; each child will have different needs and parents should use their discretion. Whilst reading should happen almost daily, other tasks could be completed in short, sharp bursts, such as practising number facts/timetables or spellings. Clearly, learning at home is not just about work sent home from school. It is essential that there is time for family activities, hobbies and interests which support learning. The habit of homework should start in the early years with enjoyable activities which parents and carers can carry out together with the child.

Feedback

Teachers will provide appropriate feedback. This may be through class work (class discussions or feedback on work of which homework assignment is a part), through tests (tables/spellings), or through individual comments to pupils or parents.