



HOMWORK POLICY

Homework can make an important contribution to pupils' progress at school.

The aims of homework are:

- To give children the opportunity to practise and consolidate their learning
- To practice skills in a range of settings
- To develop enquiry skills
- To develop independent learning skills
- To enable parents and carers to support their child's learning

Rationale

- Homework activities are based on the age and developmental level of each child
- Homework activities are carefully planned and structured to support progression in learning
- There is an agreed programme of homework activities so that teachers, pupils, parents and carers know what to expect each week.

Expectations

Pupils in Early Years and all those working below Bridging Levels

All pupils have Next Steps targets and families are encouraged to work at home on these e.g. to use pictures to make choices, to count during play and every day activities, to spot numbers, letters and words in the home and local community, to develop self-help skills like dressing or toileting or to work on activities suggested by the Speech Therapist, OT or Physiotherapist. Targets are shared at the consultation evenings and Annual Review meeting.

Most pupils will have a book, game or toy to share with their family each week.

Some pupils may be given a short task to complete each week e.g. a phonics or topic activity

Primary pupils working at Bridging Levels and above

Reading

All pupils take a book home each day to share with a parent or carer. Parents and carers should spend a short time every day, if possible, listening to their child read or sharing a book with them. They should write a short note in the Reading Record about how their child got on, each time they read with them e.g. words they found difficult, what they could tell them about the story, whether they liked it or not.

All pupils will be given a literacy, maths or topic activity each week to practice their skills. This could be a word game, spellings, a phonics or number worksheet or an investigation. The Primary classes have a creative curriculum and they may be given an activity to do at home which will develop skills in a range of curriculum areas.

Some pupils may be given extended homework activities to develop their writing or problem solving skills.

Secondary pupils working at Bridging Levels and above

Weekly

All pupils are encouraged to read at home as often as possible, independently or with a member of their family.

All pupils are expected to complete a piece of English, Maths and Science homework each week.

Occasionally

Occasional activities may be set for Humanities, Art and DT/ASDAN to develop a wider understanding of the subject.

A homework timetable is kept in each pupil's Gilofax.

Parental responsibilities:

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which their child can do their homework.
- Help their child complete homework where appropriate.
- Encourage their child and praise them when they have completed homework.
- Make it clear to their child that they value homework, and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning.
- Short sessions are more beneficial than trying to complete all the homework in one go.
- Books and equipment sent home must be returned in good condition.
- Write a short comment in their child's reading record when they hear them read.

Pupil responsibilities:

- Pupils are clear about what they need to do.
- Pupils complete homework on time and bring it back to school.
- Pupils ask for help at home or school if they need it.

Staff responsibilities:

- Set well differentiated homework activities that will support learning.
- Liaise with parents and carers so that they can support their child.
- Offer homework support in school at lunch time.
- Review homework promptly with the pupils so that they receive appropriate feedback.
- Encourage pupils to take ownership of their homework tasks as part of their learning and to meet their individual targets.