

School Homework Policy



Bishop Road Primary School

Adopted by: Chair of Teaching and Learning Committee

Adopted: March 2019

Review: March 2022

This policy has been written with consideration of with the following school policies:

- Behaviour, Curriculum, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, Safeguarding and the school Equalities Plan

Purpose

Homework contributes towards children becoming independent learners and enables them to practise skills learned in the classroom, thereby increasing their knowledge and understanding of a range of topics studied. Homework also offers an important opportunity for parents/carers to take part in their child's learning and to support them at home.

Homework can also generate a variety of worthwhile learning experiences in addition to those provided in school. It provides extra time to apply information they have already learned during class sessions.

At Bishop Road Primary School homework is used regularly as a means to enhance learning for all children in our school. Children will be positively encouraged to complete homework tasks for their own benefit, although non-statutory and therefore non-compulsory.

Time

The time required to complete homework will depend on year group and individual educational needs. Pupils should always be encouraged to pursue non-assigned, independent, leisure reading.

Foundation Stage

Reading records are issued in Reception, which should be completed by the person listening to a child read. We expect parents to hear children read on a daily basis and recognise reading as the essential support for children's successful start in school. Key words and sounds are sent home regularly to enable parents to support development of reading. No formal homework is set in Reception. Curriculum information is available on class web pages. This will give ideas on how to support children's learning.

Expectations – Key Stage 1

Homework is introduced gradually with an emphasis on reading. Regular reading practice is very important if children are to become good readers and children should read each night for a period of at least 10 minutes. *A booklet on reading to children is available on the website and details advice and tips for a successful approach to reading with children.* Accompanying the child's reading book is a reading record. This should be used to comment on the child's reading. Any additional homework will be sent home with a note from the class teacher, explaining the task.

Infants will be asked on occasions to spend some time on other curriculum areas, or researching about topics covered in class. Sounds, keywords and spellings are taught on a weekly basis with words being sent home to support development in this.

Expectations – Key Stage 2

Years 3&4

Children should continue to read with parents daily – this remains a very important time to support children develop even if the child is a competent reader. In addition, children will be set other pieces of homework and parents/carers are encouraged to spend time ensuring work is completed. Tasks will usually relate to either research and preparation for an area of the curriculum, or reviewing learning which has already taken place in the classroom. By the end of year 4, all children must have learned their times tables up to 12 x 12. Parents are encouraged to practice these with children throughout the week. Spellings are taught and tested on a weekly basis and time spent developing a secure understanding and context for vocabulary as well as an accuracy in spelling is beneficial for all children.

Years 5&6

Homework will start to increase as children move into the upper part of the Key Stage. This will also be reflected in the type of homework set. Children are encouraged to read a variety of books on a daily basis with parents facilitating discussion and interrogation of themes and ideas for the more able reader and support to those who are experiencing difficulty with reading. Homework tasks will usually relate to either research and preparation for an area of the curriculum, or reviewing learning already taken place in the classroom. Spellings are taught and tested on a weekly basis and time spent developing a secure understanding and context for vocabulary as well as an accuracy in spelling is beneficial for all children.

- **Responsibilities of Staff**

- Frequent, relevant, challenging and meaningful homework that reinforces or develops learning.
- Give clear instruction and make sure that pupils understand the purpose.
- Give feedback on tasks set – verbal or written.

- **Responsibilities of Parents / Carers**

- Set a regular, uninterrupted study/reading time.
- Provide support and guidance where appropriate.

- **Responsibilities of the Pupils**

- Ensure instructions/information from the class teacher are taken home.
- Ask the teacher if the you do not understand that task
- Work to do your best and ask for help if you have tried first.