



School Homework Policy

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One benefit of homework is that it can help parents support their children in building positive attitudes towards their education, but it is our belief that this should be balanced with the needs of children. Taking this into account, homework will follow the activities listed below.

Home Reading: Helping children to read and developing 'reading for pleasure' is the single most important thing that parents can do to help with their children's education. If possible, reading should be done every day. It is an excellent way to bring 'screen time' to a close and help settle children into a healthy, bedtime routine. Reading can also be linked to current school topics to support interest and understanding.

Maths Skills: Fluency in maths skills (e.g. number bonds, times tables, telling the time) is another aspect that can have a big impact on children's learning. Scientific research has proven that the human brain has limited 'thinking space'; so storing basic facts in the long-term memory helps when working on difficult problems. We advise that children practise these basic skills until they know them 'by heart'.

Knowledge Organisers: For most subjects, 'knowledge organisers' are used to set out the main facts and vocabulary that children should learn for topics being studied. At the start of a new unit of work, a knowledge organiser will be stuck into the children's work book for them to refer to during lessons. These knowledge organisers will also be available under the curriculum section of the school website for parent reference. Throughout the year, these will be added to the website each half-term.

Weekly homework tasks per year group:

Reception

Reading:

Children will begin by bringing a wordless picture book home to share with an adult each week. Once children are ready; they will then bring home a sound blending or reading scheme book. Alongside this, they will also bring home a library book to share. Any reading that is carried out at home, should be recorded in your child's Reading Record book. Scheme books will be changed on a Monday and library books will be changed each Friday.

Phonics:

Children will receive weekly Phonics homework. This will link to the sounds which they have learned and will be given out on a Friday. Please ensure their homework book is brought into school each Thursday for their next piece of homework to be added.

Year 1 and Year 2

Reading:

Children will be given a scheme book each week which is closely matched to their Phonics learning within school. Alongside this, they will also bring home a library book to share at home. Any reading that is carried out at home, should be recorded in the child's Reading Record book. All books will be changed on a Monday. Children should also access their e-book on Oxford Owl. This is linked to the book they are reading in the Read, Write Inc phonics sessions in school. Scheme books build skills over time by introducing children to new sentence structures and vocabulary. Parents can worry that these books are not 'challenging', but the schemes are designed to develop language and grammatical structures. Generally, children should have scheme books until the end of Year 2, but it is not a 'race' to finish.

Library books should be a book that interests them and is suited to their general level of reading. As these books may be more challenging, parents can share the reading or read to their children. A key thing here is that children understand new words and knowledge, so parents should discuss the content and meaning.

Spellings:

Every Monday, children will receive a spelling test in school. These spellings will link in with their Read, Write Inc. phonics/spelling learning that takes place in school. Each week they should practice these spellings at home in preparation for this test. Spellings will be uploaded onto Spell Shed and children can access games linked to these on the EdShed platform. We will also send a list of the spellings half termly, should your child wish to practice their spellings in a different way.

Maths:

In Year 2, children will be given access to Times Tables Rockstars once times tables are introduced (this is normally in Spring term). They can then use this to practice their times tables.

Homework task:

Children will receive a weekly homework task relating to their learning in school that week. This will be sent out on a Monday and should be brought back into school by the following Monday.

Each half term, one of these tasks will include children learning and reciting a piece of poetry.

Year 3,4,5 and 6

Reading:

If your child is still on our Reading schemes as they enter Key Stage 2, they will continue to bring this book home and read one-to-one with an adult in school. Once

they are off the scheme, they will choose an appropriate book from our School Library to read at home.

Spelling:

Every Monday, children will receive a spelling test in school. These spellings will link to their Read, Write Inc. spelling learning that takes place in school. Spelling lists will be set fortnightly in Key Stage 2. Each week they should practice these spellings at home in preparation for this test. Spellings will be uploaded onto Spell Shed and children can access games linked to these on the EdShed platform. We will also send a list of all of the spellings units at the start of the school year should your child wish to practice their spellings in a different way. These can also be accessed on our school website on your child's class page.

Maths:

Children will receive a Times Tables test in school every Monday. Children can use Timetables Rockstars or any other paper-based method to support them with learning their times tables for that week. In Year 6, to help support preparation for SATs, children will receive a login to 'maths.co.uk' where weekly maths tasks will be uploaded for children to complete.

Homework Task:

Children will also receive a weekly homework task relating to their learning in school that week. This will be sent out on a Monday and should be brought back into school by the following Monday.

Each half term, one of these tasks will include children learning and reciting a piece of poetry.

'Rainbow' Home Reading Tracker:

Once your child has read 3 times within the week at home (and this is evident within their reading record), please sign and date a section of the rainbow. You must start at the top of the rainbow and complete all of the red section before moving onto orange. Once they have all sections of the colour signed and dated, they will receive a badge to represent the colour of the section completed, i.e. after 6 weeks they can achieve their red badge. Then after another 6 weeks, they can **exchange their red badge for** their orange and so on. By the end of the school year, if they have read 3 times per week consistently, they will have earned their purple badge and receive their 'Rainbow Reader Certificate' for the academic year.