



Homework Policy

Date Ratified	Review Date
Autumn 2016	Autumn 2019

Revision History

Date of Revision	Summary of Changes	Approved	Approved

Mossley CE Primary



In aiming to assist all our children to achieve the highest standards in their spiritual, moral, social, cultural and academic development, we acknowledge the crucial importance of an active educational partnership between home and school. Parents and teachers have complementary roles to play and we must strive at all times to support one another for the well-being and development of the child. The staff will continue to forge home/school links and encourage parents to be partners in the education process. Initiatives already adopted to develop this include :

- a. shared reading and use of the planners
- b. meetings for parents to discuss aspects of the curriculum/ how to help your child succeed meetings.
- c. Guided reading
- d. Shared targets

Parents are welcome in school and are actively encouraged to participate in school activities. They are invited to formal parental consultations and to share in open evenings, class activities and educational visits etc. Homework is just one of the ways in which we seek to foster this partnership.

WHY DO HOMEWORK?

Regular, well planned homework can.....

- Provide consolidation tasks for work already done in school
- develop good work habits and self discipline
- encourage skills and attitudes which help children improve their educational performance
- encourage children to extend their interests, experiences and skills
- help parents to gain insight into their child's schoolwork
- foster independence, initiative and study skills
- provide opportunities for individualised work
- offer access to resources not found in school [home computers, public libraries, local museum]
- assist preparation for future class work
- provide a context for pupil/parent interaction

WHAT IS HOMEWORK?

In the primary years homework is seen as arising naturally from work within the classroom. It is set to consolidate and complement work started in the classroom or to gather information for a future lesson. Homework refers to any work or activity which children are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents.

Key Stage 1

The activities given to the younger children provide them with opportunities to talk about what they are learning and to practise key skills in a positive and supportive environment. The main focus will be on Literacy and Numeracy and will include My Maths, maths games, spelling and learning logs'. Teachers may also ask the children to collect and bring in objects or data related to topics.

Key Stage 2

As the children get older the activities provide opportunities for them to develop the skills of independent learning. Literacy and numeracy will still be the main focus but work associated with other curriculum subjects will be introduced gradually. These activities encourage children to extend their interests, experiences and skills to foster independence, initiative and study skills.

We see homework as encompassing a wide range of possible activities e.g.:-

- reading alone or with a parent



- word or maths games
- learning logs
- finding objects and/or information connected with a class topic
- a family visit to a museum, place of interest, library etc.
- learning facts e.g. tables, spellings
- memorising a poem , words as part of a class play
- finishing off work from class
- going swimming
- being an active member of a sports club or organisation e.g. Beavers, dancing class

Homework is a two way process. Teachers may ask for specific work to be done at home, but are also delighted to learn about children's successes in other aspects of their lives. We aim to acknowledge these activities and successes in class 'sharing times' and 'Achievements' school assemblies.

HOW MUCH HOMEWORK IS EXPECTED OF MY CHILD?

The Government's time recommended for homework activities and OFSTED will monitor homework in the 'quality of learning' element of the inspections.

Reception year	Daily reading with parents approx. 10 mins a day
This will take the form of Guided reading, individual reading. Phonics and high frequency words to practice 3 times a week.	
Years 1 and 2	1 hr a week (for reading, spellings and learning logs).
This will take the form of Guided reading, individual reading for years 1 and 2. Spelling tasks/phonics, tables/learnits and learning logs every 3 weeks.	
Years 3 and 4	1.5 hrs a week (reading / spellings /learning logs).
This will take the form of Guided reading, individual reading, spelling tasks, tables/learnits and learning logs every 2 weeks.	
Years 5 and 6	30 mins a day (a regular weekly schedule –to include reading, spellings, learning logs.)
This will take the form of Guided reading, individual reading. practising tables/learnits and spellings. Learning logs every 2 weeks	
Reception – year 3 receive a maths game each week.	

THE SCHOOL'S ROLE

At the beginning of each year parents will be invited to a 'How to help your child succeed' meeting at the beginning of the Autumn term.

Teachers will encourage all children to read on a **daily basis** with their parents, older siblings, or other adults and to make a comment in the planner. Older children are encouraged to read across a wide range of materials and to discuss their books with adults, thus developing the comprehension aspects of reading.

When teachers set homework they will ensure that.....

- it is related to current areas of study within the classroom
- it will be varied in nature and subject



- the task is made clear to the children and is matched to their abilities
- time scales for completion and submission are clear and explicit
- appropriate work is marked as promptly as possible
- problems or difficulties encountered by children / parents are dealt with swiftly
- regular completion of homework is acknowledged and celebrated

PARENTAL PARTICIPATION

The role of the parent is crucial to the success of homework. All Parents are encouraged to take an active interest in their child's progress and provide homework support.

It is important that families discuss homework and decide on a routine that best suits their particular circumstances.

Ways to help your child

- Choose a good time for the homework to be undertaken
- Find a quiet and calm time and decide where the homework will be done
- Be positive, encouraging and sensitive to the child's mood
- Read to and with a younger child; discuss the pictures and story; encourage your child to pick out familiar letters and words
- With an older child, in addition to hearing him/her read, discuss the story and predict what might happen; discuss why they liked the story, which characters they like etc.
- Encourage your child to read a variety of books and materials, fiction and non-fiction
- Play games that encourage the use of skills and knowledge
- Remind and help your child to memorise their spellings and tables
- Check the presentation, handwriting and spelling of pieces of work; encourage your child to 'try out' the spelling of words and encourage the use of a dictionary
- Answer queries and provide resources and opportunities for the extension of knowledge

Parents are asked to encourage and to help but NOT to do the work for them.

Holiday Homework

The school does not provide homework when the children are taken out of school for a holiday. However parents may wish to encourage their child to keep a daily diary.

Homework - Long term illness

Each case will be considered individually. Account will be taken of the age of the child, the severity of the illness and the length of time the child is expected to be absent.

All parents are encouraged to take an interest in their child's progress and to discuss any concerns with the class teacher during the course of the year. Parents are asked to make an appointment at a mutually agreed time. Parents are invited to two formal consultation meetings during the year. Towards the end of the Summer term all parents are sent a formal statutory report on their child and are invited to make comments in response to the report.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The impact of homework upon the standards of children's levels of attainment is monitored and will be reported to parents as part of the parental consultation meetings as appropriate.



Parents are asked to comment in response to the annual report sent home in the Summer term.

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