



Learn, Aspire, Achieve

Churwell Primary - Homework Policy

1 Introduction

- 1.1 By the term 'homework', this policy refers to anything children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning, in response to requests or guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents/carers to support the children's learning.
- 1.2 Homework is a very important part of a child's education, and can add much to a child's development. The government makes clear its commitment to homework, it regards it as an essential part of good education. We believe that homework can help to make links in pupils' learning and to enable them to become lifelong learners, not simply regarding learning as something which goes on at school.
- 1.3 We recognise that the educational experience that any school by itself can provide is limited by the time and resources available; children can therefore benefit greatly from the complementary learning that they do at home. Indeed, we see homework as an important example of partnership and cooperation between teachers and parents/carers. One of the aims of our teaching is for children to develop as independent learners, and we believe that doing homework is one of the ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.
- 1.4 Homework can play a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. However, we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in family and leisure activities, and participating in clubs and organisations which play an important part in children's lives. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe that they develop their interests and skills to the full only when parents/carers encourage them to make maximum use of the opportunities available outside school.

2 Aims and objectives

- 2.1 The aims and objectives of our homework policy are:
- to ensure a consistent approach to the use of homework across the school;
 - to inform parents and carers about our approach to homework and to promote partnership and co-operation between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
 - to help to enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
 - to help pupils develop the skills of independent learners;
 - to help children to understand that the world of learning extends beyond the school
 - to enable all aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth;
 - to consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school, and to allow children to practise skills taught in lessons;
 - to help children develop good work habits for the future.

3. Types of homework

3.1 Homework will be set in the following way:

Year groups	Type and frequency of homework
Nursery	<p>Focused activities will be sent home or put on Tapestry to complete at home and to share with school.</p> <p>These activities will be sent as and when appropriate.</p>
Reception	<p>We ask that children complete at least 10 minutes daily reading with an adult at home. Please record your comments in your child's reading diary.</p> <p>Teachers will also send a 'Tricky Word' booklet so children can practise their High Frequency words with an adult at home. This will be given every week.</p> <p>A weekly maths challenge will also be sent home for children to complete with a grown up.</p> <p>School holiday focused activities will also be sent to complete at home and then to be shared at school.</p>
KS1 and Year 3	<p>We advise that your child should read at home daily. Please record any comments in your child's reading diary.</p> <p>Each week an activity linked to either English or Maths will be set in your child's Homework book.</p> <p>In Year 3 there is a strong focus on learning times tables, so teachers will set times table activities as and when appropriate.</p> <p>A weekly spelling homework will also be sent home by class teachers.</p>
KS2 - Years 4, 5 and 6	<p>We strongly encourage reading with your child at home on a daily basis. Please record your comments in your child's reading diary.</p> <p>Each week, teachers will set an English and Maths activity in your child's Homework book.</p> <p>Weekly spellings will also be sent home and tested in class.</p> <p>A continued focus on times tables means that teachers will set times tables activities as and when appropriate.</p>

In addition, children will also be asked to collect items or materials at home to bring in for a particular topic or lesson. There may also be times when you will need to support your child to organise an outfit to enable them to take part in a themed topic day.

- 3.2 Completion of homework is acknowledged by the class teacher. This could be in various forms, for example, a tick, a sticker, merit award or verbal feedback, including feedback from peers. In Nursery and Reception, the children will receive verbal feedback from staff.

4 Inclusion and homework

- 4.1 We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate for children, and we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

5 The role of parents and carers

- 5.1 Parents and carers have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents and carers to check what homework has been set and to encourage their child to complete the tasks. We invite them to help their children as and when they feel it to be necessary and to provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents and carers can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and by discussing the work that their child is doing.
- 5.2 If parents and carers have any questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher.
- 5.3 In KS2, if children need support or are unable to complete their homework at home, they are directed to our weekly 'Homework Club'. This is held every Wednesday lunchtime. Children can access materials required to complete tasks and they are able to use web based sites if they are unable to access the internet at home.

6 Use of the internet

- 6.1 The use of the internet has made a significant contribution to the amount of reference material available at home, and the ease and speed with which it can be accessed. However, our teachers expect their pupils to produce their own work, perhaps by editing something they have found, or by expressing it in their own words. The children are not achieving anything worthwhile by merely downloading and printing out something that has been written by somebody else.
- 6.2 There are many websites containing highly educational material which can have a powerful effect on children's learning. Parents or carers are advised to always supervise their child's access to the internet and to ensure sites are age appropriate and suitable.

7 Monitoring and review

- 7.1 The Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher is responsible for co-ordinating and monitoring the implementation of this policy, by monitoring samples of the children's homework and teachers' planning.
- 7.2 It is the responsibility of our governing body to agree and then monitor the school homework policy. This is done by the Teaching and Learning committee. Parents and carers complete a questionnaire every two years, and during the school's Ofsted inspection, which asks questions about parents' views on homework. The governing body pays careful consideration to feedback received from parents/carers.
- 7.3 This policy will be reviewed every three years or more often if necessary.

Signed: R.Barson

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