



MARLBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

HOMEWORK POLICY

Our Rationale

Homework opportunities can play a vital role in helping pupils to extend their knowledge and understanding and enthusiasm and interest for learning. In addition, they encourage the development of positive learning behaviours such as self motivation and responsibility. Homework activities can also serve to extend our partnership with parents and carers by providing opportunities through which they can become directly involved in supporting their child's learning.

Our Aims

- To encourage self-motivation, self-reliance and responsibility
- To stimulate enjoyment and foster an interest in learning
- To strengthen the links between home and school

Our Objectives

- To ensure that homework activities are set in line with the age and ability of the children
- To provide homework activities which reinforces and extends learning that has taken place in school
- To set homework activities which encourage the learners to develop their organisational skills and complete tasks independently
- To establish consistent homework routines in readiness for transfer to the next stage of education
- To encourage learners to complete research for homework from sources of information that may not be accessible in the classroom e.g. public library

Roles and Responsibilities

Headteacher and the School's Leadership Team are responsible for:

- Leading the development of the policy and managing and evaluating the impact of its implementation
- Providing opportunities for the continuing professional development of staff in relation to the planning and assessment of homework activities
- Agreeing the development of the homework routines throughout the school including the consideration and/or implementation of innovative and creative learning opportunities
- Monitoring and evaluating the quality of homework throughout the school and reporting outcomes to stakeholders
- Seeking and responding to the views of the pupils and their parents/carers

All Teaching Staff are responsible for:

- Planning, delivering and evaluating effective and meaningful homework activities appropriate to the age and ability of the learners
- Ensuring homework activities provide opportunities for reinforcing and extending learning at school
- Monitoring the achievements of the learners by assessing the impact of homework on their progress and providing feedback
- Helping the children to manage their own homework routines and providing opportunities for them to make choices about the activities and level of challenge

Roles and Responsibilities

Governors are responsible for:

- Conducting a bi-annual review of policy in the light of any statutory and non-statutory guidance and the views of stakeholders
- Supporting the school in promoting the value of developing homework activities

Learners are expected to:

- Meet the expectations of their teachers by showing positive attitudes towards homework tasks and doing their best to make sure they are completed conscientiously

Homework Tasks and Routines

Homework tasks may vary according to the curriculum and the ages and abilities of the learners. Typically children in Reception and Year 1 will be encouraged to read at home each day, talk to their family about the learning that has taken place at school and prepare themselves to share news from home. In addition to this, pupils in Year 2 will be expected to learn high frequency words and Junior children i.e. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6, will be set homework tasks to develop literacy and numeracy skills and support their knowledge and understanding of relevant topics. Timetables along with guidance showing the days that homework is set and due to be returned along with recommended maximum amount of time to be spent completing any single task will be made available each academic year. Some year groups may replace timetabled home learning and/or set additional project work at designated times during the year. Teachers will avoid sending any homework that has to be completed exclusively over a weekend and/or school holiday periods.

The Role of Parents and Carers

We ask parents/carers to support us in seeing that home learning tasks are completed conscientiously. Children need support to establish their own routines. Although some may prefer working independently, many children need their parents/carers company and encouragement to give them confidence. Parents/carers can help their children by taking an interest and discussing the homework, providing praise and encouragement, checking presentation, handwriting and spelling, helping to find resources, taking part in activities and games when necessary and ensuring that the outcomes represent their child's own efforts. We would also encourage parents/carers to ensure that they share books or other reading material with their children on a regular basis.

Summary

The development of positive learning characteristics and behaviours and high expectations is essential if a child is to fulfil their potential. In order for homework activities to make a positive contribution to this process, it is vital that they are considered as an integral part of the curriculum and for teachers and parents/carers work in partnership in supporting children's interest in and commitment towards learning.

Further Information

More information and guidance for parents/carers can be found in the document 'Learning Together' which can be found on our website www.marlboroughschool.net. Paper copies are also available on from the school office on request.