

BROAD CHALKE CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

Mission Statement: “With God we live and learn and play”

Homework should be a purposeful activity designed to:

- Provide an enjoyable and purposeful supplement to class work.
- Provide opportunities for the children to practise what has been learnt in class, including the development of the basic skills e.g. tables, spellings, reading, independent research skills, time management and open-ended problem solving.
- Provide a practical opportunity for parents to become involved in their child’s learning.
- Develop the partnership between home and school.

EXPECTATIONS

The demands of homework must be manageable for staff, pupils and parents.

In Reception homework will consist of reading and learning tricky words and other tasks may gradually be introduced during the course of the year. Different tasks will take different amounts of time but as a rough guide homework should take a maximum of 15 minutes per night for Reception, Year 1 and 2 children, 20 minutes per night for Year 3 and 4 children and 30 minutes a night for Year 5 and 6 children.

Teachers are expected to:

- Provide work which meets the individual needs of the children and check they understand the task set.
- Set differentiated tasks as necessary.
- Give clear deadlines for work to be handed in and mark it / respond promptly.
- Check that children are doing the work and if necessary discuss any difficulties with parents.
- Provide a homework timetable or letter of explanation at the beginning of the year.

Children are expected to:

- Do homework to as high a standard as possible.
- Give work in on time.

Parents are expected to:

- Support their child, but not do their homework for them or expect perfection.
- Take an active interest in their child’s education and the homework set.
- Ensure homework is completed and handed in on time.
- Make the school aware of any concerns or problems that might affect their child’s ability to do homework set.

How Can Parents Support Their Children in Doing Their Homework?

- Children need to read to their parents. Please take the opportunity to discuss both the contents of the text and the illustrations.
- Take an interest in your child's homework tasks and talk about how they are going to do them.
- Help your child to check that their work makes sense and matches the task set but do not expect every word to be spelt correctly.
- Help your child to learn spellings and their meanings.
- When children first start school practise counting regularly. In time extend the range of numbers and start counting in patterns e.g. in 10s or in 2s. This will lead naturally into learning times tables which will become part of homework from Year 2 onwards.
- Encourage your child to do their best and to take a pride in their work.
- Reinforce with your child that practical tasks sent home are of equal importance and value to written tasks.
- Please remember that learning at home is best achieved when it is viewed as an enjoyable and often 'fun' task.
- Not all children learn or achieve at the same rate. Please be patient with your child – do not put them off.
- Sometimes a child can become frustrated with their homework or just be too tired. If this is the case, leave the task and inform the class teacher. It is crucial that children enjoy their homework and that they have sufficient rest and relaxation during the evening.
- If your child is being asked to research a homework topic and uses the Internet please be aware of the need to supervise them in case unsuitable material is found. Research should always be presented in the child's own words.

Monitoring and Evaluation of the Policy

The Headteacher holds the responsibility for monitoring the effectiveness of this policy. Feedback from parents will be collated from time to time using a questionnaire. Staff will discuss, consider and act upon these responses accordingly.

Policy ratified by Full Governing Body: November 2013

Next Review Due: Autumn 2016