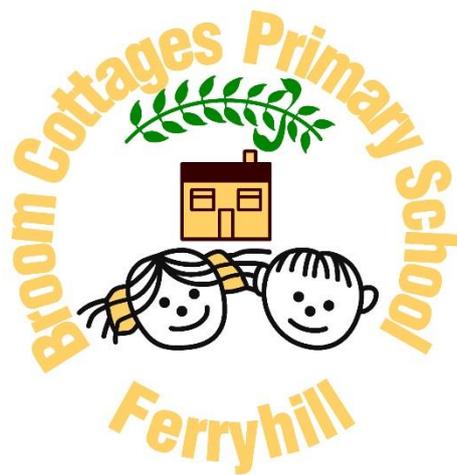


# **Broom Cottages Primary & Nursery School**



## **Homework Policy**

## **Introduction**

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 whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents/carers to support the children's learning. For example, parents or carers who spend time reading stories to their children before bedtime are supporting their learning in a very valuable way.

Homework is an 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 a 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.

We recognise that the education 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 main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.

Parents and carers can access government guidance on homework on the 'Directgov' website – [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk). The school adheres to this guidance.

Homework plays 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 various 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 the full only when parents/carers encourage them to make maximum use of opportunities available outside school.

At Broom Cottages Primary and Nursery School we have a strong commitment to parent/carer involvement and we see homework as one way of developing this partnership.

## **Aims and Objectives**

The aims and objectives of the homework policy are:

- To ensure a consistent approach to the use of homework across the school
- To inform parents/carers about our approach to homework and to promote partnership and cooperation between home and school in supporting each child's learning
- To inform parents/carers about work going on in class
- 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 and to make links between their experiences in school and those gained outside school
- To enable aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth
- To consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school, and allow children to practise skills taught in lessons
- To help children develop good work habits for the future.

### **Types of homework**

We set a variety of homework activities. In all key stages, we provide books for children to take home and read with their parents/carers.

At key stage two we continue to give children various homework activities but we expect them to carry out the tasks independently.

The use of ICT and access to the internet has made a significant contribution to the amount of material available at home, and the ease and speed with which it can be accessed. There are many websites containing highly educational material which can have a powerful effect on children's learning. Our school website provides links to sites which will support children's learning through the useful website page. Parents and carers are advised to always supervise their child's access to the internet.

For children unable to access the internet at home, we will make time available in school where a member of staff will supervise.

Teaching staff monitor the completion of children's homework. The completed work is assessed and appropriate activities can then be re-assigned if the children have found their homework too difficult or too easy.

### **The role of parents and carers**

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 by discussing this with their child.

We ask you to help your child as and when you feel that it is necessary and to provide them with space and an environment which will allow them to do their best.

If parents or carers have any questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact their child's class teacher.

### **Monitoring and review**

It is the responsibility of our Governing Body to agree and then to monitor the school homework policy. This is done by a committee of the Governing Body that deals with curriculum issues. Parents and carers are requested to complete questionnaires circulated from school and during the school's Ofsted inspection, which asks questions about your views. The Governing Body pays careful consideration to any concern that

is raised by any parent. Our Governing Body may, at any time, request from our Headteacher a report on the way in which homework is organised in our school.

This policy will be reviewed every three years or more often if necessary.

Date of approval: 19 September 2016

Date of review: September 2018