

BEDALE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



HOMEWORK POLICY

Date of Agreement: 25th January 2017

Date of Review: 25th January 2019

Responsibility: Governors School Improvement Committee

At Bedale C of E Primary School homework refers to any work or activities which children are asked to do outside lesson time. Bedale C of E Primary School is firmly committed to raising the attainment of all pupils in its school, and recognises the significant contribution homework can make to the personal, social and academic success of an individual pupil.

Homework means:

- A natural extension of work in school;
- Work shared with parents and guardians;
- Work done outside normal lessons.

Homework is important because:

- It provides an opportunity for dialogue with parents;
- It establishes a habit of independent working;
- It demonstrates that learning happens beyond the school.

Homework should:

- Be well monitored and supported;
- Be manageable for staff and pupils in terms of scope and volume;
- Meet the needs of individual children;
- Be communicated to home by some form of diary / book;
- Be regular to establish the habit from the age of five onwards;
- Have clear aims and expectations, understood by children and adults;
- Prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school.

Time Allocation

At Bedale C of E Primary School we follow the DFE guidelines as set out in *Homework: Guidelines for Primary Schools and Secondary Schools*.

Foundation Stage	45 Minutes approx per week	Reading and spelling, other English and maths and cross curricular homework.
Years 1 & 2	1 hour approx per week	Reading and spelling, other English work and maths work one piece weekly (selection of) English/maths/topic
Years 3 & 4	2 hours approx per week	Reading, spelling, and grammar practice. A maths worksheet, grammar/comprehension task and topic web

Years 5 & 6	2.5 hours approx per week	Reading and comprehension, spelling, maths worksheet, English work sheet, arithmetic and task linked to topic (once per term)
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Implementation

In Foundation Stage children are expected to read a minimum of 3 times per week with an adult. They will have key words to read and spell. Progress is monitored through dialogue in the reading diary. Maths targets and reading targets will be sent home half termly and assessed. Cross curriculum homework is sent home weekly to support work in class.

In Year 1 children continue to read a minimum of 3 times per week and learn to read and spell key words. Progress is again monitored through dialogue in the reading diary.

In Year 2 children are encouraged to read daily, expected to read 3 x per week. Spelling for weekly test, in addition to morning spellings. Progress is monitored through dialogue in the reading diary. In addition children in Year 1 and Year 2 are expected to complete an additional activity each week. This will be English, maths or topic based.

In Years 3 and 4 children are expected to read regularly. This will be recorded in their reading diary. They will have spellings each week. In addition, there will be a maths worksheet and/or a comprehension sheet, and a half termly topic task.

In Years 5 and 6 children will read regularly. This will be recorded in their reading diary. They will have spellings to learn and arithmetic to practice each week. In addition, they will have a maths and English written or comprehension task each week and a half termly topic related piece of work. The amount of homework increases as the children are prepared for transition to secondary school.

- There are times when it will not be appropriate to set homework such as when children have been, or will be, on residential trips or are involved in a production and need to learn scripts or song words.
- If children are absent due to illness we will not send homework home. We would assume the child was too ill to work.
- Work will be set and take into account children's differing needs and abilities e.g. individual spelling logs.
- Children are encouraged to ask for clarification of the homework task if they are not sure what to do.

- We note and acknowledge that some tasks set may involve “talking tasks” with no initial recording requirement.
- We make reference to homework in the Home School Agreement that is signed by the school, parents/carers and pupils.
- Homework will not be set for the school holiday periods, with the exception of special cases where parents have consulted / agreed with the class teacher on an individual basis or particular need. Also, there may be exceptions further up in the school, if pupils require extra support in readiness for compulsory testing.
- If a child is absent for a length of time e.g. with a broken leg, the teacher and the parent will agree what should be done, how it should be handled and what sort of help needs to be given. In such circumstances the teacher should consult the Head Teacher first.
- It is not possible to give homework when parents take holidays in term time.

Marking

The marking of homework will be carried out in a variety of ways, which will be appropriate to the task through:

- ✓ Teachers marking
- ✓ Teaching assistants marking
- ✓ Pupils marking their own work during supported teacher-led input and discussion of answers
- ✓ Rewards for completion or for high standards of work are negotiated in individual classes.

Non –completion and non-return of homework

Children may be asked to complete homework tasks at break time, lunchtime if not completed or returned. Key stage 2 pupils will have the opportunity to complete homework in Homework Club on a lunchtime, with a teacher.

The parent/carer will be informed if non-completion or non-return of homework is a regular occurrence.

KS1 children will complete homework during Golden time on a Friday afternoon. (if not done at home).

Roles and Responsibilities

Leadership Team

- To promote and publicise the homework policy
- To support staff, pupils and parents in homework
- To be aware of specific needs of carers
- To monitor and evaluate the homework policy.

The Class Teacher

- To promote and support the homework policy
- To set and explain the homework task
- To mark and give feedback to pupils
- To report to parent/carers about homework.

The Pupils

- To recognise the important part homework plays in their education
- To keep their parents/carers informed about homework
- To complete homework at an appropriate standard and return it on time.

The Parent/Carer

- To be aware of the homework policy
- To provide their child with an appropriate working environment
- To encourage and support their child
- To sign, return and continue to support the home school agreement
- To use the reading diary for feedback.

Success Criteria

- Children complete homework tasks regularly
- Homework reflects and consolidates work completed in class
- Children enjoy homework tasks
- Older children are prepared for transition to secondary school.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed January 2017

Most recently reviewed by staff in December 2014