

Nelmes Primary School



Homework Policy

Reviewed July 2016

Homework Policy

This policy aims to set out clear guidance to parents and teachers about the expectations and benefits of homework at Nelmes Primary school.

The purpose of homework:

- To develop an effective partnership between the school and parents and other carers in pursuing the aims of the school;
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding which has been learned in school, particularly in literacy and numeracy;
- To encourage interactive learning at home through the use of games and activities, while developing confidence and self-discipline of independent learning.
- To develop good home learning habits

It is important that children should get into the routine of regularly devoting periods of time to study on their own and with a carer. This is especially true of reading skills, learning spellings and the practice of number facts [number bonds, times tables] which dramatically improves when a child reads at home, on a day-to-day basis. Homework will gradually increase as the child reaches Year 6, aiding their transition to year 7 of Secondary School.

The nature of homework.

Nelmes primary school believes that the main focus of homework should be on English and Maths. Science and other subjects may be added to the programme as they move up the school, without losing the focus on English and maths. Homework does not just mean formal exercises carried out by children without help from adults. Many year groups also give topic based projects which are related to a history or geography topic and require a longer period of study and completion.

Particularly in the case of younger children, it is the involvement of carers in joint activities, which can be very brief, which is the most valuable in promoting children's learning.

Year	Homework
Reception	Reading with parents Learn tricky words (words in a box)
One	Reading with parents Learning spellings

	Maths activity
Two	Reading with parents Learning spellings Learning tables Maths activity
Three	Reading Learning spellings Learning tables English/Maths activity
Four	Reading Learning spellings Learning tables Maths/English activity
Five	Reading Learning spellings Learning tables Maths activity English activity
Six	Reading Learning spellings Learning tables and mathematical formulae and vocabulary Maths activity English activity Revision (preparation for SATs)

Children should be encouraged to read every day, either to or with another person, or independently. Parents are invited to keep a record of their child's reading and the progress being made, through the use of reading diaries. They can also see comments written by the class teacher and other teaching staff and are able to liaise with them, by offering their own opinions of their child's reading.

Homework partnerships:

To be effective homework needs to be part of a wider partnership between parents and school. This relationship is reflected in the home school agreement (see appendix), which aims to create and maintain a commitment from all parties to homework.

Parental responsibility:

They should:

- Provide a reasonably peaceful and suitable place in which the child can complete their homework;
- Support the school by showing their child that they value homework;
- Encourage and praise their children when homework is completed;
- To help them with their homework if they feel that this is appropriate;
- Liaise with the class teacher if they are unsure about any aspect of homework.

School responsibility:

The school has a responsibility to provide work which is relevant and of a suitable level. Published materials have been brought to resource the homework tasks. (See appendix)

Guidance on how parents can help their child with the homework activities is given at the beginning of the new academic year along with reading and maths activities on the school's website. Links on the website are also given to spelling and numeracy tests to help reinforce the week's homework.

Each individual teacher will decide how best to feedback to their pupils on the homework they have completed. In the upper school, class marking allows problems to be discussed and addressed. Otherwise, comments will be made in homework books and where necessary, talks between child and teacher will solve any misconceptions.

Parents are also urged to discuss homework with their child, which can be invaluable. They will have the chance to talk about homework given in parents' evenings held throughout the year. If more immediate matters arise, then staff will be available to talk to parents before and after school, providing an appointment is made.

Pupils' responsibilities:

Each child has a responsibility to make sure that their homework tasks arrive in a clean, legible state and brought back to school in a similar condition. If a textbook or other material owned by the school is lost or damaged, there will be a fee for its replacement.

Homework, by its very nature, relies on self-discipline to a great extent and pupils should take on the responsibility of completing homework without constant reminders from staff. Parents will be informed if homework has not been completed for two consecutive weeks without good reason.

Conclusion:

It is our aim at Nelmes to make homework worthwhile and enjoyable. Many tasks will centre around games and activities where one-to-one adult input can greatly aid learning. Some activities can include all the family.

We hope that parents will get as much satisfaction from homework as their children do.

July 2016

Appendices

- Appendix 1- Home-school agreement.
- Appendix 2- Homework resources.

Homework resources.

Year	Resources.
Years 1 and 2	Abacus homework textbooks Anita Straker Textbooks Abacus Evolve Homework tasks.
Years 3 and 4	Abacus homework textbooks Anita Straker Textbooks Abacus Evolve homework tasks. Maths Express
Years 5 and 6	Anita Straker Textbooks Abacus Evolve homework tasks. Maths Express Key Comprehension SATs revision guides



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Home-School Agreement

The parents/carers

I/We will:

- Ensure that my child goes to school regularly, on time and properly equipped
- Make the school aware of any concerns or problems that might affect my child's work or behaviour
- Support the school's policies and guidelines for behaviour
- Support my child in homework and other opportunities for home learning
- Attend parents' evenings and discussions about my child's progress
- Behave responsibly with regard to school security and safety of pupils

Signature(s)

Nelmes School

The school will:

- Be responsible for your child's safety and well-being whilst in our care
- Encourage your child to achieve his/her full potential as a valued member of the school community
- Provide a balanced curriculum and meet the individual needs of your child
- Achieve high standards of work and behaviour through building good relationships and developing a sense of responsibility
- Keep you informed about general school matters and about your child's progress in particular
- Be open and welcoming at all times and offer opportunities for you to become involved in the daily life of the school

Signature Headteacher



The Pupil

I will:

- Attend school regularly and on time
- Bring all the equipment I need every day
- Wear the school uniform and be tidy in appearance
- Do all my classwork and homework as well as I can
- Be polite and helpful to others
- Follow the school and class rules
- Keep the school free from litter and graffiti
- Be tolerant of other people's religions and cultures

Signature **Pupil**