



Redlands Primary & Nursery School

Homework Policy

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Redlands Primary School Homework Policy

At Redlands we value the strong links between home and school and we understand the importance of working together to ensure the best education for our children. Homework is a great opportunity for us to share in our children's learning and to reinforce the work they are doing in school.

Our homework policy aims to:

- Ensure a consistent approach towards homework throughout school
- Strengthen the partnership between home and school by encouraging children to share learning experiences with their parents
- Support children's learning by providing opportunities to reinforce and consolidate work done in school
- Encourage pupils to take responsibility for their own learning and to gradually prepare them for the transition to secondary school
- Allow families some flexibility in choosing when to complete homework tasks

Teachers will:

- Provide children (from F2 upwards) with a homework pack at the start of each new topic / half term
- Produce homework packs containing activities which are relevant and worthwhile
- Ensure that at least two maths activities, two literacy activities and a creative task are included within the packs for KS1 and KS2 children plus any useful websites
- Choose open-ended activities which can be completed by all children at the level expected according to their ability
- Send home Big Maths Beat That sheets weekly in KS1 and KS2
- Mark or acknowledge all homework in some way (alternatives to marking may include: presentation to the class, publication on the school blog etc)
- Use homework as an assessment for learning tool
- Reward good work or effort with team points, stamps, stickers or certificates.

Parents will:

- Listen to children read at home at least 5 times a week and sign the red organiser
- Encourage children to work on basic skills such as spellings and times tables
- Set aside time and space for the completion of homework and support children in completing the tasks set.
- Encourage and praise children for good work or effort.
- Speak to the class teacher if they have any concerns about homework.

Suggested time spent on homework

Homework packs are designed to allow parents flexibility in choosing when to set aside time to complete tasks however the following is suggested as a guide:

Year group	Average amount of time expected to be spent on homework per week
Nursery	Time to share books at home
Foundation 2	Up to 15 minutes of homework activities plus regular reading and key words to learn
Years 1	Up to 15 minutes of homework activities plus regular reading, phonics and number work.
Year 2	Up to 30 minutes of homework activities plus regular reading, phonics and maths practice.
Years 3 and 4	Up to 40 minutes of homework activities plus regular reading, spellings and maths practice.
Years 5 and 6	Up to 1 hour of homework activities plus regular reading, spellings and maths practice.

Reading

Reading is such an important life skill that we encourage children to read at home at least 5 times per week. Parents are asked to use the red school organiser to record when children have read at home. Every time a child reads 5 times or more in a week, a ticket with their name on will be put into the half termly draw to win a gift voucher.

Phonics/Spellings

At school we follow the Sounds Together programme of phonics in Foundation and Key Stage 1. Each day children work on a new sound. In Key Stage 2, children look at spelling patterns to build on their phonics knowledge. Children are encouraged to use their knowledge of phonics and spelling patterns when reading and writing at home and will be given phonics/spellings to support this. Key Stage Two children will bring home personalised spellings in their red organisers. These will be words that have been spelt incorrectly by the child during written work and highlighted by the teacher.

Maths Practice

Mental maths is an important part of the maths curriculum and any work that is done at home will really help children to progress. Times tables should be practised on a regular

basis and learning other maths facts such as number bonds would be very beneficial. All children in KS2 are provided with a username and password for the website www.sumdog.com where they can play a range of games to develop mental maths skills.

Monitoring

Senior leaders will monitor homework by collecting samples of work at least once a term.