

INTAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL



# Homework Policy

Revised: October 2017

Review Date: October 2020

Written by Curriculum Team 3

## **The Purpose of Homework**

*The purpose of homework is:-*

- To further develop the effective partnership we already have, between the school, parents and other carers in pursuing the aims of the school, in order to provide the best possible education for our children.
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy.
- To make full use of resources for learning, of all kinds, at home.
- To extend school learning, for example through additional reading.
- To encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own, and preparing them for the requirements of secondary school.

## **The Aims of the Policy**

*Through this policy we aim to:-*

- Have consistency of approach throughout the school.
- Develop progression towards independence and individual responsibility.
- Take into account the needs of the individual pupils, particularly those with Special Needs.
- Ensure parents/guardians have a clear understanding of the expectations of different year groups
- Improve the quality of learning experience offered to pupils
- Extend and support the learning experience through reinforcement and revision.
- Provide opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work in partnership.
- Provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences.
- By Year 2, to have given the children confidence to deal with KS1 SATS and the move to KS2.
- Encourage children to develop long term strategies for future needs.
- By Year 6, to have prepared children for KS2 SATs and for transfer to secondary education.

## **Home/School Partnership**

- Through our ethos of learning hand in hand together, we believe that homework helps to promote an effective partnership between home and school.
- Parents, carers and families are by far the most important influences in a child's life and school recognises and values all the developmental work and learning opportunities provided by home.
- Homework helps parents to develop a picture of their child's attainment, learning styles and resilience and we will supply information and help to support you develop learning at home with your child.

## **The Approach**

- The purpose and the nature of homework change as children get older.
- Short activities of different kinds – simple games, learning spellings and number facts and of course, reading together – provide a very important opportunity for young children to talk about what they are learning to an interested adult, and to practise key skills in a supportive environment.
- As children get older, homework provides an opportunity for children to develop the skills of independent learning, and this should increasingly become its main purpose.
- It is important that children should gradually get into the habit of regularly devoting periods of time to study on their own.

- The class teachers will set the work appropriate to the year and the ability of the pupils. As stated elsewhere, this is not necessarily a formal type of work, it may be very simplistic, reading, spellings, research work or more difficult work according to age. The setting and monitoring is at the discretion of the individual class teachers.

## **Expectations**

- When homework is set, we expect children to complete it as it is normally an extension or consolidation of work in school or finding out about a new topic.
- Homework is not intended to be a chore or to cause problems in the home environment and we strongly support parents in making a decision as to whether it is appropriate to complete a task if a child is distressed or has been taking an inordinate amount of time to complete the activity.
- Communication is vital and parents are urged to speak with the class teacher who set the task if they have any concerns.

*Pupils will be expected to;*

- Complete their homework to the best of their ability
- Return their homework to school on time

*Parents will be expected to;*

- Support their child in completing homework to the best of their ability
- Ensure their child returns homework to school on time
- Provide quality time and space for their child to complete homework
- Discuss any concerns with their child's teacher

*Teachers will ensure that;*

- Parents and pupils are given a clear timetable for homework
- Appropriate homework is set and feedback given for age and ability of pupils
- Pupils who are not returning homework are followed up
- Support, help and guidance is available for parents (usually via the website)

## **The Focus**

- The main focus of homework should be on literacy and numeracy.
- Science and other subjects should be added to the programme as children move up the school, without losing this focus on literacy and numeracy.
- In the case of younger children, it is the involvement of parents and carers in joint activities, which is most valuable in promoting children's learning.
- Regular reading is vital – for children in Key Stage 1 homework should very largely consist of regular reading with parents and carers, looking at books together.
- Reading practice, listening to others read and talking about reading continues to be essential right through school.
- Other literacy related homework will include, of course, learning spellings and practising grammar and punctuation.
- Homework may be differentiated to support the needs of the individual child
- In numeracy, number games and tasks, and more formal exercises for older children, that can be done at home, involving parents or carers.
- Topic homework is set 2 or 3 times over the course of the year in most year groups. This allows children the opportunity to research and explore their own interests within a topic in greater depth as well as sharing and engaging the whole family in the learning process

