

Frithwood Primary School

Homework Policy

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Homework Policy and Guidelines

Aims of Policy

- To develop an effective partnership between school and parents
- To ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- To ensure progression toward independence and individual responsibility
- To ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account
- To ensure that parents have a clear understanding about expectations from themselves and the pupils
- To extend and support the children's learning through reinforcement and revision
- To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to enjoy learning experiences together
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding particularly in English and Maths
- To encourage pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline required for individual study
- To prepare children for the demands of secondary school.

Content of Homework Given

The main focus of homework will be English and Maths with the addition of other subjects such as topic work as the children move through the school. Homework will at times, consist of formal exercises to be completed by the child but may also include activities to be completed jointly by the parent and pupil, e.g. reading, research, talk activities.

The children in the Nursery, Reception and Key Stage One will be given regular speaking and listening activities and reading practice. This continues to be essential all the way through the child's primary education. When a child is ready they may be expected to learn spellings and may then receive additional homework tasks.

Maths tasks begin with simple activities that eventually develop into formal tasks. This will be supplemented by tables, number bond practice and mathematical games.

In addition to regular weekly activities, children may be given additional tasks according to age and ability. These may include research work, reading in preparation for lessons, preparation for an oral presentation and traditional written assignments. Occasionally children may be asked to finish class work at home but this will not form the core part of the homework.

Organisation of Homework

Teachers will establish a regular pattern of homework that parents will be informed about at the beginning of the academic year. In EYFS homework tasks are sent home in wallets. In Year 1 and 2 homework descriptions are stuck in the homework diaries. In Year 3 and 4 tasks are recorded in a homework book, which is sent home. In year 5 and 6 homework is recorded in homework diaries and completed in homework books. Parents are expected to acknowledge homework completed.

By Year 6 the expectation is that the homework diary is a formal record to ensure smooth secondary transition.

It is Frithwood's policy to use the following timings as a guideline:

<i>Year Group</i>	<i>Time Allocation</i>	<i>Subjects</i>
<i>Reception/Nursery</i>	<i>10 minutes per evening</i>	<i>Daily reading Weekly 'Talk' tasks</i>
<i>Year 1</i>	<i>One hour per week</i>	<i>Daily reading Weekly Maths, English or topic Task</i>
<i>Year 2</i>	<i>One hour per week</i>	<i>Daily reading Weekly: Maths or English or Topic task</i>
<i>Year 3</i>	<i>One and a half hours per week</i>	<i>Daily reading Times Tables Weekly: Maths plus English or Topic task</i>
<i>Year 4</i>	<i>One and a half hours per week</i>	<i>Daily reading Times Tables Weekly: Maths plus English or topic</i>
<i>Year 5</i>	<i>Two hours per week</i>	<i>Daily reading Times Tables Weekly: Maths plus English or topic</i>
<i>Year 6</i>	<i>Two and a half hours per week</i>	<i>Daily reading Times Tables Weekly: Maths plus English or topic</i>

Spelling packs for children from Year 2 onwards will be given out at the start of each year for on-going assessment appropriate to child's current level of attainment.

Homework during the school holidays

Compulsory homework will not be given during holidays.

Teachers may give children the opportunity to research for project work during the holiday period. This will be optional and additional time will be allocated during term time.

It is expected that all children will continue to read to parents during the holiday times.

Special Educational Needs/EAL

The above timetable applies equally to children with recognised special educational needs or EAL. These children will receive differentiated tasks according to their needs which may be a different context to the rest of the class.

Planning and Coordination

Teachers will provide manageable tasks for the children and liaise with parents as necessary. All parents will be informed at the beginning of the academic year of the regular homework pattern. This will include the day it is set and the completion date.

Parents will be informed of any habitual non-completion of homework by informal phone call or conversation in the playground. A copy of the homework policy will be made available.

Children will be required to complete re-issued homework during Golden Time or at home.

Where appropriate, children who are absent when homework is issued are required to complete if absence is short and within the completion time-scale.

The Role of the Parent/Carer

We recognise the role of our parents as being their children's first educators. Parents are asked to provide a suitable place in which homework can be completed, whether working alone or working with an adult. It is essential that parents make it clear to children that they value homework and are willing to support the school with their approach. This includes encouragement and praise at all levels.

Whilst parents are encouraged to support their child it is important to stress that most regular 'formal' exercises should be done **without** parental assistance. If parents do give assistance at any times they are asked to note this in the homework diary to inform the teacher. Class teachers are explicit with their instructions, but parents are asked to consult them if unsure.

Feedback

All homework handed in on time is marked and feedback given to pupils. This may take a variety of forms according to the work set, such as:

- Class discussions about the work
- Tests
- Individual written feedback
- Individual verbal feedback

Parents are provided with an assessment of their child's approach to homework in the February interim report. Parents are invited to give teachers useful feedback.

In KS1 and Years 3 and 4 parents must sign the homework/reading diary to acknowledge that their child has been reading at home.

This homework policy will be reviewed every two years.