



HOMEWORK POLICY

It is our belief that homework is an important and integral part of the whole curriculum offered to each child in the school. Homework is not always formal, and will require varying amounts of time spent on it, but it is the expectation of the school that parents will support and encourage their children by showing a positive attitude to homework.

Our main reasons for giving homework are as follows: -

- 1 To give the child practice of skills learned in the classroom.
- 2 To give an opportunity for the child to work independently.
- 3 To involve parents in their children's work.
- 4 To expand the 'working' environment (in other words that the children are encouraged to undertake academic, or academic related work in places other than school).

Homework will normally be set Monday - Thursday. Not all homework need be formal, or written. Children may be asked to explore the environment of their home, or the locality; to ask questions of parents, neighbours, or find items for use in school. Not all children in a class will necessarily be asked to complete a particular homework on a particular night. Homework will take into account the abilities and needs of the children.

Homework is set with the expectation that it will be completed.

Parents are asked that, in so far as is possible, the child be given a quiet time and place to complete any assignment. Where a child is unable to complete homework, parents are asked to let teachers know, by communicating information through the child's homework diary, although we recognise this may not always be possible.



CONTENT AND TIME

Reading

From P1 – P7 parents can reinforce and consolidate what has been done in school by reading with and to your child, demonstrating that reading is enjoyable. Children will be taught reading in school and the book they use with their teacher will remain in school.

They will bring home familiar books that they have already read or books that they should find a little easier to read than the text they are reading in school. This is designed to encourage them to read more widely and to find reading pleasurable. From time –to-time they will be asked to complete some activities based on their familiar book reading. Parents are asked to sign pupils' reading record.

Spellings

P1 children will be following a programme based around the Jolly Phonics scheme and then will be introduced to an overview of the Linguistic Phonics programme further into their P1 year. P2-7 children will be following the Linguistic Phonics programme, which helps children to learn the sounds of words and helps to develop both their ability to read and spell. P3-7 children will have a structured homework to complete each night (Monday to Thursday) and then have a Friday assessment at the end of the week.

Other Work

Where written work is set, an appropriate book will be given.

The school would not wish that children spend too much time on homework and, as a guide to teachers and parents, would recommend a total time of:

P3 & P4 About 30 minutes a night

P5 About 45 minutes

P6/P7 No more than 1 hour

(Transfer Test work will be in addition to this time recommendation)

Generally, P3-P7 children will normally receive four written/learning homeworks per week (two per week for P1 and 2). Parents may of course wish to exceed these times, but are asked to exercise discretion when doing so. The homework set should be within the capability of the child, but the school would not wish a child to attempt to carry on with work that the child found over-difficult.

Each child will have a homework diary. Teachers and parents may use this to communicate with each other. Parents are asked to sign the homework diary on a daily basis to demonstrate that they have viewed their child's homework.