

## SWINTON QUEEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

### POLICY STATEMENT FOR HOMEWORK

Co-ordinator: Mrs S. Joyce

Through this policy we aim to:

- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- Consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in Literacy and Numeracy
- Extend school learning
- Ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- Provide opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work in partnership
- Provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences
- Ensure the needs of the individual pupil are taken into account
- Encourage children as they get older to develop self-confidence and self-discipline
- Prepare children at Year 6 for secondary transfer

There are certain generic learning skills which we need to develop through homework, i.e. consolidating, reinforcing, understanding, preparing, responding, investigating, recording, correlating and researching.

For younger children developing a partnership with parents or carers and involving them actively in children's learning is the key purpose of homework and the activities that children are set to do at home provide a very important opportunity for young children to practise key skills in a supportive environment.

As children get older, homework will provide an opportunity for children to develop the skills of independent learning and this will increasingly become its main purpose. By the time children reach Year 6 their homework will cover a wide range of tasks and curriculum content. This approach will benefit their learning and also ensure that, in relation to homework as much as to other aspects, their transition to Y7/secondary school is as smooth as possible.

For children in Key Stage 1 homework will largely consist of regular reading with parents and carers. Reading practice will continue to be essential right through

primary school. Other literacy related homework will include learning spellings and word work linked to the Literacy in school. One homework activity on numeracy involving number games or tasks will also be included. Homework activities will be set regularly and will be designed to take, on average, approximately one hour per week.

In Lower Key Stage 2 the demands of homework will gradually increase and will be designed to take, on average, 1.5 hours per week. The activities will centre on literacy and numeracy as for Key Stage 1 but will include occasional assignments in other subjects. By Year 5 and Year 6 the children will be expected to spend about 2.5 hours a week on homework. There will be a regular weekly schedule with continued emphasis on literacy and numeracy. In addition to this the children will be set some tasks relating to other areas of the curriculum.

Homework tasks will be planned for weekly.

Teachers may want to allow more than one evening for some homework to be completed to allow for sufficient time for information to be collected or to take account of any after-school activities the children may be doing. However homework is set, it is very important to provide manageable tasks for the children and manageable outcomes for the teachers.