



Homework Policy

Updated: February 2016

Review date: February 2019

Homework refers to any work or activities which children are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers.

Introduction

Short activities of different kinds – simple games or activities and reading together, provide a very important opportunity for young children to talk about what they are learning to an interested adult, and to practice key skills in a supportive environment.

As the children get older, homework provides an opportunity for children to develop the skills of independent learning, and this should increasingly become its main purpose.

Aims

- Develop a partnership with parents or carers and involve them actively in children's learning.
- To encourage children to use every opportunity to share their understanding.
- To link homework to learning that has happened within the classroom.
- To practise skills taught in school.
- Ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- Extend the challenges open to the pupil.

Reading

Daily reading is vital for children to develop sight reading and comprehension skills. Homework should consist of regular reading with parents and carers; looking at books together, reading practice and listening to others read.

Children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EY) will take home word bundles to develop their sight vocabulary and awareness of sentence structure. Children in Key Stage 1 (KS1) will take home the lists of Key Stage 1 Words (High Frequency Words) related to their year group.

Reading books that are sent home are for the purpose of practising the reading skills taught in school. It is recommended children practice their reading as often as possible i.e each night. Books will be changed during the week (each year group states the frequency of this) if they have finished their book. Parents are encouraged to make comments in the reading record (how well the child has read, the interest level, comprehension etc).

Topic homework

Each child is given a grid of activities related to each half term's class topic. The activities support the class learning and enable children to explore their interests further. Within this grid there is a selection of activities that focus on Reading, Writing, Maths, Creativity, Personal Social Emotional Development (PSED) and Physical Development. The activities offer a graduated challenge approach. The onus is on the child to choose an activity each week with the support of a

parent/carer. We suggest that these homework activities last no more than 15 minutes each week.

Maths

In KS1 children will have access to the online Maths Program 'RM Maths' – this is a progressive Maths program consisting of fun activities completed online. There is no weekly time requirement to complete these activities, it is suggested that children participate with this weekly.

The role of the teacher

Teachers will explain what is expected of the children for the given activities. The system will be explained to the parents at the beginning of the school year. They will monitor the homework completed and offer feedback and a sharing session in class for homework to be celebrated when appropriate.

The role of the parent/carer

Parents and carers should:

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which their child can do their homework – together with an adult.
- Make it clear to their child that they value homework, and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning.
- Encourage pupils and praise them when they have completed their homework.
- Support their child in choosing an activity of appropriate challenge.

Policy monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed every term 2015-2016 and then updated each year.

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