



Over St. John's C.E. Primary School
'Let your light shine before others.' Matthew 5:16
Homework Policy

Introduction

By the term 'homework', this policy refers to anything children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning, in response to requests or guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents/carers to support the children's learning. For example, parents or carers who spend time reading stories to their children before bedtime are supporting their learning in a very valuable way.

Homework is a very important part of a child's education, and can add much to a child's development. We believe that homework can help to make links in pupils' learning and to enable them to become lifelong learners, not simply regarding learning as something which goes on at school.

We recognise that the educational experience that any school by itself can provide is limited by the time and resources available; children can therefore benefit greatly from the complementary learning that they do at home. Indeed, we see homework as an important example of partnership and cooperation between teachers and parents/carers. One of the aims of our teaching is for children to develop as independent learners, and we believe that doing homework is one of the ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.

Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. However, we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in family and leisure activities, and participating in various clubs and organisations which play an important part in children's lives. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe that they develop their interests and skills to the full only when parents/carers encourage them to make maximum use of the opportunities available outside school.

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of our homework policy are:

- to ensure a consistent approach to the use of homework across the school;
- to inform parents and carers about our approach to homework and to promote partnership and co-operation between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- to help to enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- to help pupils develop the skills of independent learners;
- to help children to understand that the world of learning extends beyond the school, and to make links between their experiences in school and those gained outside school;
- to consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school, and to allow children to practise skills taught in lessons;
- to help children develop good work habits for the future.

Homework schedule for the whole school

<p>EYFS Hatchmere</p>	<p>Hatchmere's Home Task On Hatchmere's blog each week, the class teacher posts a parental involvement task. This usually includes an activity relating to the ongoing class topic. It is normally a practical task that will help the children develop their understanding of their learning.</p> <p>Reading at Home All children are expected to read at least four times a week which should be a priority. Reading can take any of the following forms: Sharing a book together either from school or at home. Independent reading of books from school. These books initially may have no words and the children will be encouraged to make up a story based upon the visuals. Answer simple questions about stories they have read or have been read to them.</p> <p>We also send home HFW home for the children to learn. This is usually every few weeks and includes the HFW words that may be a little trickier. As the children can read all HFW on a sheet they are then given a new one.</p>
<p>Key Stage One Year 1 – Sandymere Year 2 - Delamere</p>	<p>Reading All children are expected to read at least four times a week. Reading for homework can take any of the following forms: Independent reading of books from school Sharing a book together Answering questions about the book</p> <p>Mental Maths/Times Tables All children in Sandymere and Delamere are expected to use Numbots on a regular basis to practise and consolidate mental maths skills. The games and activities on Numbots are key to practising and reinforcing vital mental maths skills. Children in Delamere will be guided to use Times Table Rockstars on a regular basis to practise and consolidate their times table recall and fluency.</p> <p>Spelling In Sandymere, children will be given spelling words from the Year 1 common exception word list to learn. These will be checked once a week on a Monday. In Delamere, children will be given spelling words as directed by the class teacher. These will be checked once a week on a Friday.</p>
<p>Key Stage Two Year 3 and 4 – Oakmere Year 4 and 5 – Linmere Year 5 and 6 – Blakemere</p>	<p>Reading All children are expected to read at least four times a week. Reading for homework can take any of the following forms: Independent reading of books from school Sharing a book together Answering questions about the book</p> <p>Mental Maths/Times Tables All children are expected to use Times Table Rockstars on a regular basis to practise and consolidate their times table recall and fluency. Children are also welcome to login to Numbots if they choose to. Children will be set weekly times tables to learn and practise by their class teachers.</p> <p>Spelling Children will be given spelling words from their year group spelling list and rules. These will be checked once a week on a Monday.</p>

Inclusion and Homework

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child, and we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way. When setting homework to pupils who have special educational needs, we refer to those pupils' Individual targets, if applicable, and take their individual needs into account.

The Role of Parents and Carers

Parents and carers have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents and carers to check what homework has been set, and to encourage their child to complete the tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as and when they feel it to be necessary and to provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents and carers can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and by discussing the work that their child is doing.

If parents and carers have any questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher.

Monitoring and Review

Mrs Bettley is responsible for co-ordinating and monitoring the implementation of this policy.

It is the responsibility of the Head Teacher to agree and then monitor the school homework policy.

This policy will be reviewed every two years or more often if necessary.

Signed:

E Snowdon

Head Teacher

Date: September 2023

Review Date: September 2025