



Homework Policy 2018

Homework Policy



Homework is set in order to reinforce & revise covered in school. It gives parents an opportunity to see what their child is doing in school & to support the work of the school.

The common thread throughout all homework from P1-7 will always be the necessity of practicing reading, no matter what level the child is working at. This is one of the most essential skills in life and, while children progress in reading at hugely differing levels, the only way to improve at reading is to keep reading so it must be the key priority of homework time!

P1 should spend no more than 15 minutes on homework activities which will generally be material in preparation for reading. Later in P1, they may bring home early readers. P2 will have reading to practice at home and quite often a simple written activity related to this. Altogether this should take no longer than 20 minutes.

P3 will continue as P2 until after Christmas, with the addition of spellings. In January they will start simple but more formal activities.

P4 will continue as P3. Both P3 & 4 should spend a maximum of 30 minutes on homework.

P5-7 will have spellings, tables/number facts & written homework. Reading will be set each night from reading books but all pupils in P5-7 will also have a book from Accelerated Reader (from mid-September) which they should read at least a few pages from each night as well. Homework diaries should only be signed once all of this, including reading, is complete. All of these should take no

longer than a total of 45 minutes.

Spellings are taught using Linguistic Phonics. This means all children in the class are working on the same sound pattern each week but not necessarily on the same spellings. They are given a new list at the beginning of each week & work on those words each night Monday - Thursday in preparation for a test on Friday.

Parents are asked to please sign homework diaries each night to confirm their child has completed all the tasks required including reading tasks.

If you feel your child's reading or spellings are too easy or too hard, or there is some other difficulty with homework, please do not hesitate to contact school & the relevant teacher will get back to you as soon as they can.

If children do not complete their homework to an appropriate standard for their age and ability - or not at all - they will be expected to do so in their break or lunchtime.

However, if a child has clearly been making a genuine effort but the homework is not completed in the suggested time, they should stop even though the work is not finished.

Parents should sign the homework and add a note or contact the teacher to explain what seemed to be causing a problem.

In the event of a spell of good weather, homework (other than reading) will generally not be set.

Parents can help with homework by:

- Providing a quiet, distraction-free area for the child/ren to work in (phones/TVs etc are not helpful to concentration!)

- Prompting or re-wording something if necessary but not actually telling the child the answer or doing it for them. Teachers need to know if children are struggling!
- Ensure the child completes the homework to the very best of their ability (which may not be the same as another child of similar age!)