



Culcheth Primary School

Homework Policy

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Statement of intent

Homework is anything children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning, in response to guidance from the school.

1. Rationale for homework

Homework is an important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development.

We see homework as an important example of co-operation 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 main 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 the activities of various out-of-school clubs and of other organisations that play an important part in the lives of our pupils. 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.

2. Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- To enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
- To promote co-operation between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- To enable some aspects of the curriculum to be further explored independently;
- To provide educational experiences not possible in school;
- To consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school, and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons.

3. Types of homework

In Reception We ask that parents listen to their children read at least three times a week. We also believe that parents should read books to their child. Sharing books is just as valuable in aiding a child's progress in reading as is your child reading to you or to their teachers. Books are changed on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, parents/carers must sign their reading record book to inform the teacher that they need a new book. Children are also given HFW (High Frequency Words) and tricky words to learn.

In Key Stage 1 we ask parents to support their child through home learning. This includes reading daily for about fifteen minutes- recording 3 times in their homework diary. (Remember this can include sharing books and you reading to your child). Children will be given two new books to read each week, if their reading record book is signed. Once the children have achieved phase 5 in their phonics they move onto Lexia. We expect these children to complete a minimum of 30 minutes per week of Lexia. Children in Year 1 and 2 complete 30 minutes of Maths Seeds a week.

In Key Stage 2 we continue to give children the sort of homework activities outlined for Key Stage 1, including the reading activities specified above but we expect them to do more tasks independently. Children are asked to complete 30 minutes of Reading Plus and 30 minutes of Mathletics. **Homework is given out on a Friday and need to be completed by the following Friday.** Children are given termly topics to complete. During this time the children do not need to complete Mathletics.

Homework is always acknowledged.

Please note:

By the end of Year 3, children should be able to recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

By the end of Year 4, children should be able to recall and use multiplication and division facts for all tables up to 12×12 .

Creative Curriculum:

This will take the form of projects which you can work on with your child. e.g. 3D modelling, research, writing task.

A homework schedule is provided by the teacher each term. During this time children will not be given weekly Maths tasks, they will be given approximately 3 weeks to complete these tasks. Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 will complete these tasks. Topic assignments are to be completed once a term.

4. 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.

5. Homework Club

Year 6 (Year 5 in the summer term) are offered a homework club daily at 8.15am.

We feel it is important that your child's efforts for completing their homework is acknowledged. If your child has completed 90% of their homework over a term, they will be invited to a reward afternoon once a term. The theme for the reward afternoon will be agreed with the school council.

6. 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 encourage their child to complete the homework 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 and by discussing the work that their child is doing.

Ideally parents should read with their children every day to help them develop a love of books and stories and help them to grow in confidence. We ask parents and carers to sign their child's Reading Record to show that they have heard their child read and discussed their books with them on at least three occasions during each week.

If parents and carers have any questions about homework or have any issues with their child completing homework at home, they should contact the child's class teacher.

Homework is seen in part as a preparation for the more independent learning undertaken at secondary school. If homework is not completed a standard format letter is sent home informing parents and asking for their support. If the situation is not resolved parents will be invited to a meeting with the class Teacher and the Headteacher.

7. Use of ICT

The child's safety is paramount in all matters regarding use of the internet and we advise parents and carers to always supervise their child's access to the internet.

The use of ICT and the Internet has made a significant contribution to the amount of reference material available at home, and the ease and speed with which it can be accessed. However, our teachers expect their pupils to produce their own work, perhaps by editing something they have found, or by expressing it in their own words. The children are not achieving anything worthwhile by copying, pasting and printing out something that has been written by somebody else.

There are many websites containing highly educational material which can have a powerful effect on children's learning.

We discourage children from bringing computer disks or memory sticks into school, because of the risk of viruses. However, when appropriate, a teacher might suggest that a child's work is e-mailed to the teacher at school.

If children do not have available devices to use at home to access any of the programmes that the school uses to encourage learning and set homework, including Maths Seeds, Lexia, Reading Plus and Mathletics then please contact the school. We will always aim to provide the children with a device that they can borrow on a long term loan from school to complete homework.

8. Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed every two years by the headteacher and the DSL. Any changes to this policy will be communicated to all relevant stakeholders.

The scheduled review date for this policy is 2028