



HOMEWORK POLICY

Date Authored: October 2016

Date to be reviewed: October 2018

Co-coordinator: No

Nominated Governor: No

Vision Statement

The purpose of homework at Overleigh St Mary's C of E Primary School is to help our pupils attain the highest standard (spiritual, moral, cultural and academic), through a collaborative partnership between home and school. Homework is one of the ways we seek to foster this partnership and provide opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's learning. Homework is also seen as an "essential part of a good education that supports children's development as independent learners".

Aims

- To provide a clear definition of the purpose and nature of homework at Overleigh St Mary's C of E Primary School
- To identify our shared views of good practice
- To establish how homework will be organized and how we ensure progression across the school
- To identify the roles and responsibilities of those involved
- To make clear the ways in which we aim to ensure that the policy makes an important contribution to the quality of teaching and learning in the school.
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Purpose

The purpose of homework at Overleigh St Mary's CE Primary School is to:

- Enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
- Develop good work habits and discipline for the future
- Encourage skills and attitudes which help children improve their educational performance
- Help parents gain insight into their child's schoolwork and promote partnership between home and school
- Provide opportunities for individualised work and develop skills of independent learning
- To consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and assist in preparation for upcoming work
- Provide a context for parent / pupil interaction

What sort of homework should I expect for my child?

YEAR 1 & 2

1 hour per week. This includes daily reading, weekly spelling practise, other English/Maths work which is linked to work completed with the class.

YEAR 3 & 4

1.5 hours per week. This includes daily reading, weekly spelling practise, other English/Maths work which is linked to work completed with the class as in Year 1/2, with occasional assignments in other subjects.

YEAR 5 & 6

30 minutes per day. Regular weekly schedule with continued emphasis on English and Maths, including spelling practise, but also ranging widely over the curriculum. This time also includes the daily reading recommended by the government for all primary children.

For younger children a 'little and often' approach is best (10-15mins daily is a good habit). As children become older that should be encouraged to work with increasing independence.

Processes Implemented in School

Homework is linked to class work and the National Curriculum. While predominantly linked to the learning of English and Maths, tasks set will not necessarily be of a formal, pencil and paper style. Tasks may include reading, learning of tables and spellings, completion or extension of class work, additional research, collecting information, investigations and practical activities to develop skills.

In the Foundation Stage and at Key Stage 1

Key Stage 1 children are asked to learn spellings or are given an extension task linked to other subjects as part of their homework. Sometimes children are requested to talk about a topic at home prior to studying it in school. For example, in the history topic on toys, children may find out what toys were popular when their grandparents were young and, if possible, to bring examples into school to show the other children. Children may be asked to find and collect things to be used in other lessons, and occasionally children are asked to take home work that they have started in school when it is believed that they would benefit from spending further time on it. When children are asked to study a topic or to research a particular subject, they are encouraged to use the internet and the school or local library to assist them.

At Key Stage 2

Children are provided with the similar homework activities to KS1 but are expected to do more tasks independently. Homework tasks are provided on a homework sheet which is stuck into homework books. Tasks are explained fully by the class teacher. English and Maths homework is set routinely each week and children are expected to consolidate and reinforce learning done in school through practice at home. Homework is also set as a method of pre-learning about an upcoming topic or area of study, as well as a means of ensuring that prior learning has been understood. Homework may also be set to help the children to revisit learning to prepare for formal assessments (SAT's examinations).

Homework is marked according to the school's Feedback to Learning Policy, and when necessary, formative comments will be made. All homework will be reviewed by the class teacher (homework sheet being stamped / initialled) and homework completed well will be acknowledged and praised. Parents are also asked to initial the homework sheet to show

that they are aware the homework has been set and have been involved in assisting their child with the completion of the tasks.

Reading

Regular reading practice is an essential part of the homework schedule. In KS1, children should read with an adult at home every day and the children are given reading books each week to share. In KS2, as they mature as readers and where class teachers deem this appropriate, children may select their own books from class and school libraries. Children are also given a reading log / journal in which parents are asked to record comments on their child's progress. KS2 children should still be reading every night with parents recording in their reading log at least 3 times per week to indicate they have read and discussed the book with their child. These books need to be in school daily as staff will also record in them when they have heard the child read at school, either in a group or independently

ICT

For some homework assignments, particularly for older pupils, pupils may make use of ICT to complete tasks, research and present their work. The school monitors those pupils who do not have access to ICT at home and will ensure that such pupils are not disadvantaged.

Children with SEND

Homework set is differentiated to reflect the different ability levels within the class; this may be through the setting of different activities or differing expectations of outcome. From time to time, pupils with special needs may be set additional or different homework, in order to reinforce a particular skill or area of learning. Homework may also be set by a support teacher or teaching assistant.

RESPONSIBILITIES

GOVERNOR

The governing body will be informed of significant developments within the subject area and, if necessary, their approval will be sought.

HEADTEACHER

Alongside the senior leadership team it is the Headteacher's responsibility to monitor standards and ensure statutory responsibilities are being met.

TEACHER

When teachers set homework they will ensure that:

- It is always clearly related to current areas of study within the classroom
- The task is made clear to children and matched to their abilities, especially for those children with SEND
- Time scales for completion and submission are explicit
- Work is marked as promptly as possible
- All children will be expected to complete tasks. There will be an opportunity to succeed in this through a homework session in school leisure time (break etc) if they continually fail to complete it.

PARENT

As a parent it is important that you...

- Support your child with their homework tasks, and communicate any concerns regarding these with your child's class teacher.
- Provide a quiet area where your child can work
- Offer your help and support for younger children to complete tasks
- Expect older children to work independently, but make it clear you are there if needed
- Take an interest in the homework and encourage your child to take a pride in their presentation of written tasks
- Record comments regarding reading your the child's reading journal.
- Sign the homework sheet to signify that you have seen and are happy with the quantity and quality of work undertaken (KS2 only).
- Should speak to the child's class teacher if there are circumstances as to why homework has not been completed, or any issues with completing the tasks set.

ASSESSMENT AND RECORDING

This will be undertaken task by task, and where there are issues with a child's contribution on successive occasions the class teacher will contact home to discuss these further.

MONITORING & REVIEW

The homework policy will be promoted throughout the school, made available to parents and carers and its implementation and effectiveness will be regularly reviewed.

REPORTING TO GOVERNORS

Alongside the senior leadership team it is the Headteacher's responsibility to monitor standards, ensure statutory responsibilities are being met, and to report to the governing body.

OTHER POLICIES TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THIS POLICY

Teaching and Learning
Feedback to Learning
SEN (Inclusion)
Curriculum Policies

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

The school has a formal complaints procedure, details of which can be found in the complaints policy, available upon request from the school office

This policy was written by Deputy Head

This policy was reviewed by Teaching Staff

This policy was signed off by the Curriculum and Ethos Committee **INSERT Date**

This policy was ratified by the Governing Body on **INSERT DATE**

file name/version