



'Valuing Learning, Learning to Value'

## Homework policy

### Policy status

Recommended

### Purpose

This policy sets out to clarify the definition of homework at Yorkley Primary School, to describe the types, amounts and frequency of tasks and to ensure a common understanding of homework by all concerned. This policy has been reviewed in the light of comments retrieved from parental questionnaires and parent consultations.

### Consultation

The staff and governors were consulted during the writing of this policy

**Policy Statement:** We believe homework consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding in numeracy, literacy and other curriculum areas, helps raise the level of achievement of individual pupils, provides opportunities for parents and children to work together and, thereby, fosters an effective partnership between home and school.

We value the support of parents/carers and we believe that this policy will be successful if there is a strong partnership between home and school which is reflected in the Home-School Agreement.

We recognise that all children need leisure time and hope that our policy reflects a balance so children can extend and consolidate their learning with parental support while still allowing 'down time.' A breakdown of how homework is structured is provided below. This has been designed to encourage a gradual progression of skills and expectation so that by the time children reach Year 6 they have established a clear routine in preparation for high school.

### In Reception homework will consist of:

- A reading book, which will be sent home every day. Parents are encouraged to share this book on a regular basis with their child/ren.
- Phonics words linked to spelling will be sent home.

### In Key Stage 1 homework will consist of:

- A reading book which can be changed daily. Parents are encouraged to share this book on a regular basis with their child/ren.
- Parents are also encouraged to promote their love of reading with their children as well as reading wider materials such as magazines, leaflets, signs etc.
- Visits to libraries, museums and places of interest.

- Weekly spelling which follow the spelling patterns taught in the phased groups or linked to curriculum. Parents are expected to practise with their child/ren. The spellings will be tested on a Friday.
- Weekly numeracy and literacy homework.
- All homework will be sent out on a Friday and to be handed back in on the following Friday.

**In Lower Key Stage 2 (Year 3 & Year 4) homework will consist of:**

- A reading book. Parents are encouraged to hear their child/ren read at least three times a week.
- Weekly spelling lists. Parents are expected to practise these with their child.
- Weekly literacy or numeracy homework which reinforces the class teaching for that week.
- Homework will go out on a Friday with the understanding it will be handed in the following Friday.
- Parents are also encouraged to promote their love of reading with their children as well as reading wider materials such as magazines, leaflets, signs etc.
- Visits to libraries, museums and places of interest.

**In Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5 & Year 6) homework will consist of:**

- A reading book. Parents are encouraged to hear their children read at least once a week and to talk to them about their book, reinforcing key comprehension skills.
- Weekly spelling lists are sent home and parents are expected to practise these with their child/ren.
- Tables and mental maths activities are sent home. Parents are encouraged to help their child with these key skills.
- Weekly literacy or numeracy homework which reinforces the class teaching for that week. Homework will go out on a Friday with the understanding it will be handed in the following Friday.
- Parents are also encouraged to promote their love of reading with their children as well as reading wider materials such as magazines, leaflets, signs etc.
- Visits to libraries, museums and places of interest.

Topic based activities will be set by class teachers at the start of each half term linking to the whole school theme, this will be included on topic webs. Children will be expected to choose and complete 1 of 3 tasks by the penultimate week of the term, allowing all homework to then be showcased and celebrated by all classes and parents in the last week of the term.

At times pupils, who require particular practise or extra support with an area of work e.g. handwriting, may have additional tasks set as homework.

Yorkley School offers a homework club to support children in years 2-6.

**All pupils are expected to complete these basic skills and homework tasks. Parents are requested to support their child with this.**

**Role of the Governing Body:**

The Governing Body has:

- Delegated powers and responsibilities to the Curriculum Committee and to the Headteacher to oversee the development of this policy.
- Responsibility for the effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy.

## **Role of the Headteacher**

The Headteacher will:

- Promote this policy by raising its status and importance.
- Ensure that homework is built into teachers' planning.
- Provide supportive guidance for parents.
- Keep up to date with new developments with regard to homework.
- Monitor and evaluate this policy.

## **Role of the Teachers**

Teachers must:

- Integrate homework into their planning.
- Set interesting tasks or activities.
- Explain when, what and how the work is to be done so that each child clearly understands.
- Provide feedback in line with the marking policy

## **Role of Parents/Carers**

Parents/carers are asked to:

- Sign the Home-School Agreement indicating their support for homework.
- Praise the value of homework to their children.
- Provide a suitable space in their home where their children can concentrate on their homework.
- Establish a homework routine such as "no television" while completing the work.
- Provide materials pens, pencils etc. (Please ask the school for support if this is not possible)
- Find time to work with their child or be at hand if a problem arises.
- Discuss, encourage and praise their child's efforts.
- Contact the class teacher if they are unsure of some aspect of the homework or if their child is experiencing difficulties with it.

## **Role of the Children**

Children must:

- Complete their homework and hand it in on time.
- Listen carefully in class to make sure they understand what is asked of them.
- Make sure they get feedback on their homework.
- Highlight to the School Council any ideas they may have about homework.
- Complete their homework using appropriate writing materials.
- Have a go at all their homework activities, even if the task is a challenge.

## **Links with other policies**

This policy should be read in conjunction with following policies e.g.

Marking

Handwriting

## **Policy review**

Policy compiled by: **Mrs K Burke**

Agreed by Governors: **June 2017**

Review: **June 2018**