



'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, governors, parents/carers and children were consulted during the writing of this policy

Policy Statement: We believe homework consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding in English, Maths 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 requested to share this book on a regular basis with their child/ren and write in the reading record.
- A letters and sounds book to practise their phonics at home with parents / carers.
- Practical activities which will consolidate the learning covered in school.
- A homework book will be used.

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.
- Weekly Maths, English and /or topic homework which reinforces the class teaching for that week.
- Half termly word lists which cover words from the year group expectations and any topic words the children will be learning to read and spell.
- A homework book will be used.

In Lower Key Stage 2 (Class 3) homework will consist of:

- A reading book. Parents are requested to hear their child/ren read at least three times a week and write in their reading record.
- Weekly English or Maths homework which reinforces the class teaching for that week.
- Half termly word lists which cover words from the year group expectations and any topic words the children will be learning to read and spell.
- A homework book will be used.

In Upper Key Stage 2 (Classes 4 & 5) homework will consist of:

- A reading book. Parents are requested to hear their children read at least once a week and to talk to them about their book, reinforcing key comprehension skills.
- Children should be encouraged to independently read throughout the week and to write in their own reading record.
- Tables and mental maths activities are sent home.
- Weekly English or Maths homework which reinforces the class teaching for that week.
- A homework book will be used in class 4 / A ring bound file will be used in class 5

Each class will set their homework on a Monday and it will be expected in the following Monday.

Topic based creative activities will be set by class teachers a week before the end of each half term. These will focus on the next half terms learning. The activities will support any learning that the children will be completing during the following term. Children will be expected to choose and complete 1 of the tasks by the middle of the following half term. Homework will be displayed throughout the year for visitors and parents to view.

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.

Presentation of homework will be in line with our school handwriting policy.

Yorkley School offers an after school homework club to support children in years 3-6. The children who attend the club will be by invitation only.

Maths games form part of our extra curriculum support. Games are available in every class for children to swap on a fortnightly basis, or before if requested.

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 an explanation sheet for parents / carers and children which demonstrates / explains methods used in school.
- Provide a homework box / tray for the children to put their homework once it is completed.
- 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

Home School Agreement

Teaching and Learning

Behaviour, Rewards and Sanctions

Policy review

Policy compiled by: **K.Burke and T.Wood**

Agreed by Governors: **June 2018** Review: **June 2020**