

St. Andrew's C.P. School



Kirk Ella

Homework Policy

Date of last Review: Autumn 2020
Review in: Autumn 2021



Kirk Ella St Andrew's CP School

Homework Policy

Introduction

Homework refers to anything that children do outside the normal school day, which contributes to their learning, in response to guidance from the school. We believe that homework consolidates and reinforces skills and understanding and 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.

One of the aims of our school is for children to develop as independent learners and homework is a way that children can acquire this skill. 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.

Whilst homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment, we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. Homework should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations that play an important part in the lives of many children. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school and we believe they develop their skills, interests and talents to the full only when parents encourage them to make maximum use of the experiences and opportunities that are available outside of school.

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 partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- To enable all aspects of the curriculum to be covered;
- To provide educational experiences not possible in school;
- To consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons;
- To help children develop good working habits for the future.

Types of Homework

We have thought a great deal about homework that is beneficial to the children and enables them to improve. We aim to cut out activities which are routine and serve no value to the child in the long term.

The aim is to have homework that can be accessed by parents and is more consistent across the Key Stages.

Early Years Foundation Stage

- **Reading books** - Children are provided with books to take home that are matched to the Phonics they are learning in class, to read with an adult. We provide parents with guidance on our school website and by the class teacher to help the children achieve the maximum benefit from time spent reading with their child. Children need to read four times a week and it is recorded in the home/school book. The children will also be provided
- **Phonics Cards** - These are for the children to practise and a parents meeting is provided at the beginning of the year to demonstrate how to use them.

- **Number work** – this can counting, number recognition, addition and subtraction and problem solving. This will also involve using DoodleMaths to help the support the work they do.
- **Research work** – This can before a new topic but at least two weeks will be given for it to be completed

Key Stage 1 and 2

- **Reading books** - Children are provided with books to take home, to read with an adult. Again, where it is required, the books are matched to the Phonics they are learning. The children are accessed regularly to ensure the books are at the correct level. We provide parents with guidance on our school website to help them achieve the maximum benefit from time spent reading with their child. Children need to read four times a week and it is recorded in the home/school book.
- **Spellings** - Key words and spelling lists are made available for parents to learn with their children throughout the year
- **Online Activities** - DoodleMaths, DoodleEnglish, DoodleTables and DoodleSpelling is used to provide regular maths practice as well as being a tool to create specific targets for the children to complete.
- **Research work** - This can be before a new topic but at least two weeks will be given for it to be completed

Year 6

SATs preparation - In addition to the above, extra homework may be given as preparation for the SAT's in May

Please note that the specific details of homework in each class will vary (e.g. day issues, arrangements for completion, etc.). This information will be sent home at the start of the new school year. Please speak to your child's class teacher directly if you require any information.

Completion of Homework

It is our expectation that homework will be completed carefully, presented to a high standard and handed in on time. If a child does not complete homework, teachers will offer opportunities to provide support for children to help them with any homework that is confusing or difficult; this may take place during play time. When homework is frequently missing or not completed, handed in late or of a poor quality, the child's class teacher will raise this as a concern with the child's parents.

Marking of Homework

Completion of homework tasks is recorded by the class teacher and all homework is reviewed / marked by the class teacher to the same standard that work in school is marked.

Inclusion

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks are appropriate to the ability of the individual child. If a child has special needs, we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way. When setting homework for pupils who are named on the register of special needs, we refer to the Support Plan as such children in the class may be set different homework.

The 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.

The Role of the Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- promote this policy by raising its status and importance;
- ensure homework is built into the teachers planning;
- provide supportive guidance for parents;
- keep up to date with new developments with regard to homework;
- monitor and evaluate this policy.

The Role of the Teachers

Teachers must:

- integrate homework into their planning;
- set interesting tasks or activities
- set homework appropriate to each child;
- explain when, what and how the work is to be done so that each child clearly understands;
- provide feedback in line with the marking and feedback policy.

The 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;
- provide materials such as pens, pencils etc.;
- go through their homework before the child starts and discuss the completed work when finished;
- make the experience pleasurable;
- 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 school if they are not sure of some aspect of the homework or if their child is experiencing difficulties in doing it;
- contribute to school evaluation so the school can monitor and evaluate its effectiveness

The Role of Children

Children are asked to:

- complete their homework and hand it in on time;
- listen carefully in class to make sure they understand what is asked of them;
- contribute to pupil interviews and pupil questionnaires on homework for the school to monitor and evaluate;
- 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 materials;
- have a go at all their homework activities.

Equality and Equal opportunities

All children have equal access and inclusive rights to the curriculum regardless of their gender, race, religion, sexuality, disability or ability. We plan work that is differentiated for the performance of all groups and individuals. Kirk Ella St Andrew's Community Primary School is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from racial intimidation and harassment and to achieve their full potential.

General Information

- If children are absent due to illness, we will not high expectations on homework. We would assume the child was too ill to work.
- If a child is absent for a length of time, e.g. with a broken leg, the teacher and the parent will agree what work should be done, how it should be marked and what sort of help needs to be given. **In such circumstances the teacher should consult the Head Teacher first.**
- It is not possible to give homework when parents take holidays in term time.
- Parents/Carers who have queries about the homework they should indicate on ClassDojo or make an appointment to talk to their child's class teacher.

Review

This policy will be reviewed in the Autumn 2021