

Homework Policy

The Purpose

Through this policy we aim to:-

- ensure consistency of approach within year groups and across the school
- develop independent working habits and individual responsibility for work
- cater for the needs of individual pupils as far as is practicable
- ensure that parents and pupils have a clear understanding about expectations
- consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy
- provide opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work in partnership
- prepare Year 6 children for secondary school
- extend school learning

Type and amount of homework

We have been guided by the government's recommendations in allocating time. The following should be viewed as approximate guidelines.

Years 3 and 4	1.5 hours/week	(literacy and numeracy with occasional assignments in other subjects)
Years 5 and 6	30 minutes/day	(regular weekly schedule with continued emphasis on literacy and numeracy but also ranging widely over the curriculum)

- Regular reading with, and to, a parent is vital. On days when the homework activity is something other than reading, children should be encouraged, in addition, to read for at least 15 minutes (on their own or with others).
- Homework does not just mean formal exercises carried out by the children alone. The involvement of parents with children in joint activities is most valuable in promoting children's learning.

Children with Special Educational Needs

The purposes of homework apply equally to pupils with S.E.N. Homework should not be seen as a way of attempting to get them to catch up with the rest of the class. Homework for children with SEN should:-

- not demand too much or too little of the children
- be as similar to the work done by other children as possible
- have a very clear focus and time-scale
- provide opportunities for success
- be varied - not purely written work
- be manageable for teachers
- help to develop social, as well as other, skills where necessary

Planning and coordinating homework

- The class teacher is responsible for ensuring that the demands of homework are manageable
- There will be a regular pattern to homework, details of which will be given to parents each term
- Some homework may extend over more than one day

The role of parents

We hope that all parents will:-

- become actively involved in their children's homework activities
- make it clear to their children that they value homework, and support the school in explaining how it helps learning
- encourage and praise their children when they complete their homework
- provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which homework can be done
- recognise that, on some occasions, children should complete the work without help.

Feedback for pupils, parents and teachers

- Where homework is done with an adult at home children should receive feedback on what they are doing from that adult in addition to appropriate feedback in school
- Work done by children on their own should receive appropriate feedback in school as quickly as possible
- Each child will have a "Home/School Communication Book" which will incorporate all written contact between the home and school, including homework information