

DEFINITION

Homework is any activity or experience undertaken by the child at home that enables that child to grow and develop spiritually, emotionally, academically, intellectually, socially or physically. Successful homework means that parent, teacher and child can work in partnership to the benefit of the child's educational development.

Homework activities and experiences may be set by the teacher, or instigated by parents. Homework encompasses a wide range of possibilities in relation to parents, the school and the child. Some examples are:

- Reading with a parent
- Visiting a local museum
- Finishing off work from class
- Pursuing research at the local library
- Learning number facts or spellings
- Playing board games
- Asking questions
- Specific tasks set by the teacher relating to any curriculum topic
- Being an active member of a sports club or organization
- Practising swimming skills

AIMS

Through involving children in activities and experiences at home we aim to:

- Develop good work habits and self-discipline
- Provide opportunities for individual work
- Encourage skills and attitudes that help children to improve their educational performance
- Offer access to resources not found in school
- Assist children in the preparation of class work
- Involve parents in their child's education
- Help parents to gain insight into their child's schoolwork
- Provide further opportunity for practising skills, memorizing knowledge and preparing for tests

GUIDELINES

Homework that has its origins in the classroom should be manageable for teacher, parent and child. It should be purposeful and valued for its contribution to the child's educational upbringing. As far as we are able we should provide motivating tasks that are relevant to the child and the topics being learnt in school. A balance should be maintained between the formal and informal aspects of homework.

It may, at various times involve:

- A set task once a week e.g. maths investigations
- A termly task e.g. spelling lists
- Individual work directed to specific children e.g. handwriting skills
- Re-doing work that has been produced shoddily in class
- Finishing work that has not been finished in class
- A set task in relation to a curricular topic e.g. design and make a cake
- Regular frequent practising tasks e.g. reading

Resources will be purchased that enable teachers to set relevant and manageable homework tasks. These will be kept on the staff room shelves

All children will be given the opportunity to take work home. Please refer to the Equality and Access policies.

At the beginning of each term parents will be informed of curricular topic plans and will be given a list of homework indicators relating to activities which they may wish to pursue with their children.

Younger children have a Home/School communications book in which homework activities and communications between home and school will be recorded. Instructions for use are contained within the book.

When the new website is fully functional, homework tasks will be uploaded here. Teachers are expected to make clear the date of upload and the date by which homework should be completed. Children are expected to check regularly for homework entries.

Parents are expected to support the school in ensuring that homework is completed and returned as instructed.

Parents need to be made aware of this policy, as its success is dependent upon the co-operation of parents, school and children.

Agreed: October 2018

Person Responsible: V Lucas

To be reviewed: October 2021

