

HOMEWORK POLICY



A community inspiring lifelong learning

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SPINFIELD SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

PURPOSE:

Homework consists of tasks which are set to be done outside the timetabled curriculum. In setting homework for children, we should aim to provide a relevant activity for them to do in which their parents/carers can be involved and which can aid their general educational progress. While we recognise that it is not a statutory requirement for children to complete homework, properly designed homework can play a valuable part in education, adding a substantial amount of study time to a pupil's school career.

THROUGH THIS POLICY WE AIM TO:

- Encourage pupils to develop the ability to study independently
- Stimulate interest and develop perseverance and self-discipline
- Allow practise, where it is needed, of skills learnt in the classroom
- Capitalise on facilities which are not available at school eg: research and information gathering
- Ensure parents/carers have a clear understanding about expectations from themselves and the children
- Develop the skills of personal organisation and responsibility
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and school to work in partnership

ORGANISATION:

- Homework assignments should be purposeful
- When setting assignments, account should be taken of the child's ability
- Homework should not be used as a form of punishment, although if a child fails to complete a task in school within a reasonable time, they may be asked to complete it at home
- Not all assignments will require marking. Some can be marked by the child. Where it is appropriate for work to be marked by a teacher, this should be done punctually and conscientiously. All homework will need to be carefully monitored. We cannot expect children to maintain or strive for high standards if we do not value the work they produce.
- Where children fail to cope satisfactorily with the level of homework which is set, parents should be contacted and their help sought and, if appropriate an action plan will be put in place. I.e reduce the amount expected.
- Spinfield offers a "Catch Up Club" on a Wednesday lunchtime which is a time and space for children to access homework tasks while in school.

ONLINE SAFETY:

As the majority of homework for KS2 will be set online using our online learning platforms, all parents are sent the computing parental agreement annually. Class teachers will spend time at the beginning of each academic term ensuring that pupils understand the computing code of conduct and E safety is part of the computing curriculum for all year groups.

THE TYPE AND AMOUNT OF HOMEWORK WHICH IS APPROPRIATE FOR PUPILS OF DIFFERENT AGES

Reception:

Children will regularly take home reading books, sight vocabulary and phonics which they will share or practise with parents. On occasions, they may be asked to carry out simple tasks or bring objects into class. Individual activities may be sent home for specific children.

Key Stage 1:

Homework will be sent home each week. The tasks will be linked to learning in English, maths or topic. Children will regularly take home reading books which they will share with parents, these may be E books, library books and sharing books. Routine and more formal work will be set throughout the Key Stage either in written form or via our online platforms. The children may be asked to carry out simple tasks or investigations which are appropriate to their classroom activities and individual needs. These will be accompanied by an explanatory note to parents. In addition, spelling/number bonds/times tables may be sent weekly.

Year group	Subject	Expected time of completion
Reception	Reading Doodle Maths Time to talk project 1 per term	10 mins 10 mins 20 mins
One	Reading (daily) Spelling / phonics task Maths: Worksheet or Doodle added extra in addition to daily doodles, suggested time of 10 minutes Time to Talk project 1 per term	10 mins 10 mins 20 mins
Two	Reading Spellings English / Phonics task Maths: activity or one set doodle added extra related to the topic in addition to daily doodles, suggested time of 10 minutes Time to Talk project 2 projects over the academic year	10 mins 10 mins 15 mins 10 mins

Key Stage 2:

Homework will be set on Google Classroom each week. The tasks will be linked to learning in English and maths. Mini research projects will be set when appropriate and these will replace the weekly homework task. Children will regularly take home reading books which they will share with parents or read independently.

Year group	Subject	Expected time of completion
Three	Maths: one set doodle added extra related to the topic in addition to daily doodles, suggested time of 10 minutes English (either reading comprehension, or spelling and grammar): set via Google Classroom or worksheet Reading to be completed daily and records to be completed 3 times a week plus one parent comment Creative Corner Presentation one per year	30 - 40 mins
Four	Maths: one set doodle added extra related to the topic in addition to daily doodles, suggested time of 10 minutes English (either reading comprehension, or spelling and grammar): set via Google Classroom or worksheet Reading to be completed daily and records to be completed 3 times a week plus one parent comment Creative Corner Presentation one per year	45 mins
Five	Maths: one set doodle added extra related to the topic in addition to daily doodles, suggested time of 10 minutes	60 mins

	English (reading comprehension and spelling and grammar): set via Google Classroom Reading to be completed daily and records to be completed 3 times a week plus one parent comment Creative Corner Presentation one per year One project set over the year to develop research skills. This will last for a half term and will replace the doodle added extra and English homework.	
Six	Maths: one set doodle added extra related to the topic in addition to daily doodles, suggested time of 10 minutes English (reading comprehension and spelling and grammar): set via Google Classroom Reading to be completed daily and records to be completed 3 times a week plus one parent comment Creative Corner Presentation one per year Two projects set over the year: Mini Enterprise and the Year Six end of year production. These will last for up to half a term and will replace the doodle added extra and English homework.	60 - 90 mins

Projects will be given an end date. If the project runs over a holiday, the end date will be at least 2 weeks after the holiday period has finished.

Formal homework will not be set over holiday periods. However, some class teachers may send homework packs for children to work on should they wish to do so in preparation for events. There will not be a requirement for the child to return these packs to school. Children may also be invited to undertake projects for wider curriculum learning.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Some children in Spinfield school may benefit from special tasks, which may be separate from the homework set for other children in the class. Tasks should:

- Have a very clear focus and time-guideline
- Give plenty of opportunities for pupils to succeed
- Help develop social as well as other skills where necessary
- Be varied and not purely written assignments

THE ROLE OF THE PARENTS/CARERS

Parents/Carers are expected to:

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which pupils can do their homework, alone or, more often for younger children, together with an adult
- Make it clear to pupils that they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning
- Motivate pupils and praise them when they have completed homework
- Should encourage pupils to take responsibility for homework in preparation for the next phase in their education
- It would be really valuable if parents go over the homework with the children and, where appropriate, mark or make a comment. This is because teachers carry out "Live Marking" during lessons which enables them to give quick feedback and address misconceptions during the course of a lesson. It is helpful for parents to mirror this model and work through any misconceptions at the time or soon after their child is engaging in a homework task.

THE ROLE OF THE PUPIL

- Listen carefully to homework instructions
- Check the online platform for what they are required to do for homework
- Take homework home when needed
- Meet deadlines
- Complete homework to the best of their ability

FEEDBACK FOR PUPILS, PARENTS/CARERS AND TEACHERS

Where homework is done together with adults, children will often receive immediate feedback on what they are doing. In the case of work that children do on their own, it is very important that they build on it and/or receive appropriate feedback as quickly as possible. This may be through class work (for example, class discussion or feedback on work of which the homework assignment is a part) or through tests (for example table and spellings) or through individual comments from their teacher (for example on written assignments). The range of tasks set for homework should take this into account. Pupils may also be asked to review their own work in small groups. At a more general level, recognition of children's efforts, for example by mentioning them in assemblies or publicising the achievements of particular classes, is very important in maintaining pupils' motivation. Parents will be informed if homework is regularly not completed by pupils.