

Broadheath Primary School

Homework Policy

Rationale for Homework

Homework is a very important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. Children can benefit greatly from the complementary learning that they do at home. One of the aims of our teaching is for children to develop as independent learners and we believe that doing homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.

What do we mean by Homework?

Homework is defined as any work or activities, which pupils are asked to do outside teaching time. Homework is given to enable children to consolidate, extend and enrich their attitudes towards learning. Homework is an opportunity for parents to become active partners in supporting their child's learning.

Our school seeks to maintain a balance between the amount of homework given and the need to rest and leisure time when children can pursue other interests.

We hope that homework is enjoyable for the child and that it will stimulate imagination and creativity as well as reinforcing what is taught in the classroom. Homework can cover a wide range of activities depending upon the age and ability of the child.

Aims

Homework is important because it provides an excellent means:

- To develop the partnership between Home and School.
- To consolidate and reinforce what is learnt in the classroom.
- To build up basic skills (particularly reading, writing and mathematics).
- To become curious and independent learners.
- To develop good study habits.
- To prepare for the next stage of education.

Types of Homework

Activities may include:

Reception

- Reading for pleasure and purpose – school Reading Scheme books, E collins books and library books to be read each night
- Little Wandle Weekly Home Learning Sheets
- Maths – weekly Maths Challenges
- Home Learning Topic Challenges posted on Class Dojo
- Purple Mash activities

Key Stage 1

- Year 1 and 2- Reading for pleasure and purpose – school Reading Scheme books and library books to be read each night. All children have an E-Collins account to access reading books online.
- Year 1 – Little Wandle Phonics activity – weekly
- Year 1- My Maths/ practical maths homework- weekly
- Year 2 English reading comprehension activity – Weekly
- Year 2 My Maths homework- weekly
- Year 2 Spelling homework to be practised in different ways (including Spelling Shed)- weekly

Key Stage 2

- Reading for pleasure and purpose – school Reading Scheme books and library books to be read each night
- Weekly spelling activity and list sent home for testing the following. Use of Spelling Shed to support weekly spellings
- English activity – weekly
- Maths activity including MyMaths – weekly
- Occasional topic related or extended projects

Use of Class Dojo and portfolios

Homework will be set via Class Dojo. Completed homework tasks should be uploaded to each child's portfolio for the class teacher to provide feedback and monitor. All families will be expected to use this function on Class Dojo, however if there is no access to Class Dojo then a paper copy of any homework will be provided. This must be returned to the class teacher for marking and feedback.

Support for accessing the portfolio function of Class Dojo will be provided for those families who request it.

Portfolios will be monitored by class teachers weekly and by senior leaders as part of the whole school monitoring cycle.

Inclusion and Homework

We set homework for all the children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child and we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way. We value and celebrate the cultural diversity of our pupils and their families and we appreciate the enrichment that this brings. As a school we allow children opportunity to present their homework in a variety of styles and allow children to use resources which remove barriers to learning, for example, children with dyslexic tendencies.

Pupils have the opportunity to complete homework at playtimes or lunchtimes in order to meet deadlines and have support with activities where required.

The Role of Parents

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as and when they feel it to be necessary and to provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly and by discussing the work that their child is doing. As children become older, we encourage children to become more independent and responsible for completing homework.

Parents are asked to work in partnership with school by making any relevant comments with regard to their child's homework on the sheet or book provided or via Class dojo portfolio.

Most importantly, parents are asked to:

- Make it clear to pupils how much they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning.
- Praise and encourage pupils when they take pride in their homework.
- Provide a peaceful and comfortable place, free from distractions such as television, where pupils can concentrate on their homework.
- Encourage pupils of all ages to read as much and widely as possible.
- Ensure Reading logs are filled in as appropriate.

Use of ICT

There are many websites containing highly educational material which can have a powerful effect on children's learning. Parents are advised always to supervise their child's access to the internet. Teachers will signpost parents to suitable websites via Class Dojo, newsletters or parent meetings.

Monitoring and Review

Completed homework is closely monitored by teachers and opportunity is always provided for pupils to stay up to date with homework set. Prompts are provided.

In Upper Key Stage 2 children are expected to have greater independence and take responsibility for their learning in preparation for KS3. If they still do not hand in their homework, after this support, they will miss 15 minutes Golden Time.

Uncompleted homework will be completed during Golden Time.

It is the responsibility of our governing body to agree and then monitor the school homework policy. This is done by the committee of the governing body that deals with curriculum issues. Parents complete a questionnaire regularly and feedback regarding homework is sought.

SLT and our governing body pay careful consideration to any concern that is raised by any parent.

This policy will be reviewed annually.