



Dream Believe Achieve

HOMework POLICY
January 2015

At Whittlefield Primary School, we believe that a commitment to homework by teachers, children and parents will improve our children's achievement in school. Homework offers children an opportunity to extend and consolidate their learning at school. It is a three way partnership that will develop independence and initiative as well as raising standards in children's achievements. The frequency, content and expectations of homework will change slightly as children move through the school from Early Years Foundation Stage to Year 6. Homework that is set will reinforce the work that they are doing in class and will be either marked by the teacher or reviewed and marked together as a whole class. The needs of individual children will be taken into account when planning and marking the homework.

The Main Purposes of Homework are:

- To extend the learning children do in school
- To give children the opportunity to practise and consolidate their learning particularly in Literacy and Maths
- To help parents understand and be included in what and how their children are learning in school
- To develop links with parents and encourage the recognition of children's achievements both at home and at school

The Nature of Homework:

It should be noted that homework can be set in many different forms with many different expectations and outcomes. It is important to remember that when looking at and setting homework there are a number of points to consider:-

- The nature and type of homework changes throughout a child's school career.
- Amount and frequency of homework should increase as a child gets older.
- Homework should not cause undue stress on the child, family or the teacher.
- It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.
- Homework should be set regularly and consistently from the Foundation Stage to Year 6.

Recommended Time Allocation:

Homework should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the child's family. If parents have any concerns they should not hesitate to contact the school. Normally, more than one day will be allowed for the completion of a homework task, except where daily practice is to be encouraged e.g. reading, spelling and times tables.

Support:

In Key Stage 2 the children may attend the school Homework Club. The children have access to a member of staff who can help them if they are having difficulty completing their work.

The Role of Teachers:

- To regularly set homework in accordance with this policy
- To set work that is appropriate for the abilities of the children in their class
- To ensure homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- To mark homework and give feedback to children.
- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to parents when necessary and give guidance of how they might assist their child.
- To keep parents informed of their child's progress and make them aware of any issues relating to their work at parents' evenings.
- To reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks.
- To provide opportunities for children to complete homework tasks in school if they have not been able to complete them at home.

The Role of the Child:

- To complete all homework set to the best of their ability
- To take increasing responsibility for handing their homework on time

The Role of Parents/Carers:

- To provide a suitable quiet place where children can do their homework
- To support their children in the completion of the homework task
- To make it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.
- To join in with homework and reading with their children.
- To encourage their child to be responsible for their own homework

Agreed Procedures

- Homework will be sent home every Monday
- Homework should be returned to school by Friday of the same week
- Any child that has not returned their homework will complete the homework tasks during Golden Time on the Friday
- Home work will be recorded in the child's homework diary.

EYFS (Reception):

- Read their home reading book or library book daily to/with an adult
- Practise their key words regularly
- Complete a small maths task or game
- Complete a phonics activity daily

Key Stage 1

- Read their home reading book daily to/with an adult
- Complete a phonic, key word or Literacy task or game
- Learn weekly spellings ready for spelling test on Friday
- Complete a maths task or game
- Learn target times tables
- Complete a half termly project

Key Stage 2

- Read their home reading book daily to/with an adult
- Practise the reading and spelling of their year group spelling words regularly
- Learn weekly spellings ready for spelling test every Friday
- Complete a Literacy task
- Learn target times tables
- Complete a maths task
- Complete a half termly project

*The amount and frequency of homework for Year 6 children will change throughout the year according to need in preparation for their end of year assessments.