

St. Wilfrid's CE Primary School

Homework Policy

Rationale

Homework is an important element of the teaching and learning process which enables children to practise and consolidate recently completed or current work done in school.

In addition it supports home/school links by giving parents an insight into their children's progress in the National Curriculum.

This policy ensures that a consistent and positive approach to homework is made known to pupils, teachers and parents.

Purposes

- To provide opportunities for children to develop self-reliance and independent study skills.
- To reinforce and extend work done in the classroom
- To provide a regular focus for home/school communication regarding children's progress and achievements.
- To give parents information about the curriculum and the opportunity to talk to the children about their classwork.

Broad Guidelines

At Key Stage 1 parents are asked to share and discuss a book at home with their children as part of the daily routine. We suggest 10 minutes a day.

In addition to this, children will be given a **selection** of the following as and when appropriate:

Reception children will be given literacy homework in the form of word games, phonic sheets and handwriting practice. Numeracy homework will take the form of games, counting rhymes and number formation.

Year 1 children will be given literacy homework in the form of 1 set of spellings a week, word games, phonic sheets and handwriting practice. Numeracy homework will take the form of number games, some written exercises, when appropriate, and number formation.

Year 2 children will be given literacy homework in the form of 1 set of spellings a week and 1 piece of written work on alternate weeks. Numeracy homework will take the form of number games, learning of tables and 1 piece of written work on alternate weeks.

- When the children have a set of spellings or tables to learn it is suggested that a few minutes each night is spent learning them.
- Approximate time allocation for homework in Key Stage 1 is 1 hour per week.

At Key Stage 2 the children are expected to read for 15/20 minutes on a daily basis all children take home weekly spellings and tables to learn. Children are expected to write sentences to accompany their spelling lists.

In addition to this, children will be given a **selection** of the following as and when appropriate:

Year 3 and 4 children will have additional literacy homework in the form of handwriting. One piece of numeracy work in the form of games, investigations or mental arithmetic. The children may also be asked to carry out some informal research for the topic being covered in class.

- Approximate time allocation for homework in Years 3 and 4 is 1 hour 30 minutes per week. Children should spend 5 minutes nightly on spellings and 5 minutes nightly on tables.

Year 5 children will have additional literacy homework in the form of handwriting. One piece of numeracy work in the form of games, investigations or mental arithmetic. The children may also be asked to carry out some informal research for the topic being covered in class. Occasionally they will be asked to learn facts for a test.

Year 6 children will be asked to prepare an oral presentation and learn their parts for the Year 6 Production. Numeracy homework will take the form of 1 or 2 mental arithmetic tests a week. The children will also be asked to carry out research for their topic work, learn facts for tests, and complete any unfinished work.

- Approximate time allocation for homework in years 5 and 6 is 2 hours 30 minutes per week. Children should spend 5 minutes nightly on spellings and 5 minutes nightly on tables.
- All children throughout the school will also be asked to spend some time learning words for class assemblies.

How can you help?

- Support your child by asking about the task and checking that he/she understands what to do and how to do it - but please do not do it for them.
- Ensure work is completed on time and returned to school.
- Set aside some shared/family reading time.
- Please understand that homework is not always in the written form and that time spent in reading or in discussion with you is equally valuable.
- If you feel your child is experiencing difficulties over a period of time, please contact the teacher.

Other ideas

Use the local library.

Encourage your child to become involved in other out of school activities e.g. sports, Brownies, Church Brigade, etc. These all help to educate the whole child for life's rich experiences.

Food for thought

Although homework is important, please remember that after a busy school day children need time to relax and enjoy leisure activities.