

Policy for: Homework Policy
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Introduction

Research has shown that homework can make a valuable contribution to students' progress at school. Evidence points to the fact that students in the highest achieving schools spend more time on learning activities at home than students in other schools.

Aims

At Newdigate Primary and Nursery school we believe that the purposes of homework are:

- to develop and sustain an effective partnership with parents and carers in pursuing the aims of the school
- the involvement of parents and carers in their children's learning and to keep them informed about the work their children are doing.
- to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding developed at school
- to extend school learning
- to encourage students to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own and prepare them for secondary school.

Role of parents and carers

- To provide a peaceful and suitable place in which homework can be carried out
- To support the school by showing that homework is valued and explains its value in helping their children to make progress.
- To encourage and give praise for completed homework
- To check that deadlines are met.

- To sign their child's homework diary/reading record and make appropriate comments. If parents have a concern about the homework their child is given, they should discuss it with the class teacher.

Daily reading is a vital part in the process of learning to read and we would like to emphasise that 'reading' does not just mean that children plough through the Home Reading book. We encourage parents to spend time discussing the books, pictures and plot and help their child to predict possible endings to the stories. It is important to remember that all books are worthy of reading - not just school reading books - in order to foster a love of all types of books in the children.

Amount of homework

Homework is structured so that there is a gradual development in its amount and complexity as the children move through the school.

AGREED SCHOOL HOMEWORK TASKS & AMOUNTS PER WEEK

YEAR GROUP	HOMEWORK PER WEEK
RECEPTION	1 piece per week and reading.
YEAR 1	10 minutes reading per day. Weekly Spelling. Half termly Project (given out in week 2 of each ½ term).
YEAR 2	10 minutes reading per day. Weekly Spellings. Times Tables practise. Half termly Project (given out in week 2 of each ½ term).
YEAR 3	10 minutes reading per day. Weekly Spellings. Times Tables practise. Termly Project (given out in week 4 of each term).
YEAR 4	10 minutes reading per day. Weekly Spellings. Times Tables practise. Termly Project (given out in week 4 of each term).
YEAR 5	Daily reading. Weekly Spellings. Times Tables practise. Termly Project (given out in week 4 of each term).
YEAR 6	Daily reading. Weekly Spellings. Termly Project (given out in week 4 of each term).

EYFS

Reading- Children will have 3 reading sessions per week in school. Once children have completed all 3 reading sessions, an 'eBook' will be allocated to them to practise at home.

Home learning Books- Children will be set a home learning activity once a week. This will be sent in the home learning books on a Friday, and we ask that it is returned on the following Wednesday, at the latest. Alongside this, home learning activities linked to our topic, and focus literacy text will be set every half term. There will be a choice of 6 activities, and we ask that you complete at least 4 with your child at home.

KS1 and KS2

Reading

It is an expectation that children read to an adult daily at home and that parents take the time to complete the Home Reading Record. It is important that parents talk to their children about the books and ask questions. For example: Why did the character do ...? What does a particular word mean? How did the character feel when...? How do you know?

Spellings

Spellings are set on a weekly basis for children to learn at home. Often there is a corresponding assignment on Spelling Shed to support children with this.

Times Tables (Y2 – Y5)

By the end of Year 4 children are expected to know their times tables up to 12 x 12. We ask that parents support children in learning these at home. Teachers will send home appropriate times tables for their Year Group and supporting assignments are set up on Maths Shed for them to practise.

Project

In KS1 children will be set Project Homework each half term. These will be based around the learning taking place in class. Children will be given a selection of activities / tasks to choose from and complete in a Homework book.

In KS2 children will be set Project Homework each term. These will be based around the learning taking place in class. Children will be given a selection of activities / tasks to choose from and complete in a Homework book.

Children will be expected to bring their Homework books in at regular intervals to share their work with the class.

If your child is struggling to complete any of the homework set, please call into school to arrange a time to discuss this with the class teacher.

From time to time longer pieces of work to support and extend work in school may be set. The children will have an extended time to complete these pieces.

There will be no homework for 2 weeks after SAT for year 2 and Year 6

Holidays

Reading books/tasks will be sent home during holidays, (except Christmas) and research projects may be set on topics covered in year groups.

Monitoring

Both parents and teachers play a crucial role in monitoring homework. Parents are asked to check that homework has been given and then completed and to support children with home reading tasks. Parents who are worried in any way about their child's homework are warmly encouraged to come into school to discuss this at any time.

Teachers will make sure that homework is given at the correct time and recorded accurately. Pupils should be given clear instructions that can be translated by their parents. Homework sheets with examples on them can be very helpful to both pupils and parents. Teachers are responsible for monitoring their pupil's homework. Staff will speak to parents if homework is not returned. If the situation continues then parents will be invited into school to discuss the problem.

Feedback & Rewarding good homework

Feedback will be given promptly and be in line with the school policy on Marking and Feedback but need not necessarily be written.

In Foundation Stage & Key Stage 1 pupils will be rewarded with stickers for completing homework tasks and returning them on time.

In Key Stage 2 class teachers can also use stickers and comments to praise effort and attitude to homework.