

Helmingham Community Primary School

Homework Policy

Written by: Bernie Cleland

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Approved by:

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Homework Policy

Aims of the policy

It is intended that this policy will provide clear guidance for the setting of homework. It has been produced in collaboration with the teaching staff, pupils, governors, parents and carers of Helmingham C P School.

The document is to be reviewed regularly by teaching staff following consultation with parents, carers, pupils and the governing body.

Rationale for setting homework

We believe that an enjoyable, organised homework programme helps children acquire the skills and self-motivation that will help them become life-long, independent learners. From the time a child starts at primary school, homework enables parents and their children to work together and it also provides the basis for raised expectations and an improved work ethic. However, we recognise that children and their families have differing circumstances and, to that end, we aim to make our homework policy appropriate and accessible for all pupils.

Our good practice

Frequency

- Homework will usually be set on a weekly basis. Teachers will notify parents/carers of the set and hand-in days.
- Pupils will be given more than one night to complete homework so, if they have a difficulty, they can discuss it with the teacher before the homework is to be handed in.
- Homework set over the holidays should be of an informal nature.

Content

- Homework activities will relate directly to the curriculum. Work undertaken helps to consolidate previous learning from the previous weeks and also helps to inform future lessons.
- Homework activities may be practical. Homework should be shared, discussed and may be completed with others at home (parents, carers etc.)
- Homework tasks will be set that are of a nature than can be understood by all children in the class.
- All homework set should be accessible to the individual child for whom it is set

Support

- A homework club, run by a senior member of staff, will be available on most Fridays (3.15 – 4.15pm) for pupils who have difficulty completing homework at home.
- Pupils may be offered a break or lunch time to complete homework where they have had difficulty accessing resources

Reward

- Pupils will be rewarded for homework effort and attainment using the school reward systems (see separate 'Reward Policy')

Role of parents and carers

We acknowledge the important role homework plays in developing home/school links, giving parents an insight into the curriculum and promoting family learning. It helps parents to understand the way in which their children learn. We will endeavour to provide opportunities for parents to enjoy working with their child at home.

- Parents/Carers will be asked to sign, date and/or comment when an activity has been completed and teachers/teaching assistants will be expected to acknowledge the completion of homework in the form of a signature, date and/or comment.
- If homework is not completed on repeated occasions, we will discuss this with parents/carers to understand why this is happening and to find an appropriate strategy to address this.

Suggested Homework Activities

- Reading with an adult – preferably daily, especially with children in reception, year 1 and year 2. This should move on to book reviews.
- Maths games/investigational activities.
- Learning/practising spellings/times tables.
- Gathering resources for forthcoming lessons.
- Research for forthcoming lessons.
- Pre-reading a text prior to a lesson.
- Practical “making” or “investigating” activities.
- Preparing presentations linked to new learning
- A challenge for your child to teach you something they have learnt!
- In time, the school will look to the potential for homework activities and communication to link to the benefits which Virtual Learning Environments (VLEs) will offer
- On-line activities

NOTE - Year Six and Foundation pupils will receive slightly different activities due to their ages and the preparation needed for Year 7.

Equal Opportunities

Equal opportunity is a fundamental right for all children regardless of, for example, gender, race, cultural or social background, religious beliefs, physical characteristics or educational needs. All children at Helmingham C P School will have an equal access to all areas of the curriculum.