

Homework Policy - 2020

Morecambe Road School



Rationale

The aim of the Homework Policy is to promote learning at home as an essential part of good education. Homework not only reinforces classroom learning, it also helps children and young people to develop skills and attitudes they need for successful lifelong learning. It supports the development of independent learning skills, including the habits of enquiry and investigation.

The purposes of homework are: -

- To provide opportunities for parents, pupils and the school to work together in partnership;
- To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy the learning experience;
- To ensure the needs of individual pupils are taken into account;
- To establish effective homework practices early on and to develop these across the key stages;
- To support pupils through transitional links to the secondary phase;
- To establish homework as an integral part of the curriculum. Where appropriate it is planned and prepared alongside other programmes of learning;
- To raise attainment and to ensure progression towards independence and individual learning;
- To encourage pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own.
- To open up areas of study and to make possible the use of materials and sources available outside the classroom.
- To encourage students to talk, discuss and research using the rich variety of resources which our community can provide.

Homework Tasks

Tasks will be wide-ranging, structured and will be relevant to the pupil's needs. Homework will be coordinated and monitored by class teachers or subject coordinators. Homework will be monitored regularly and marked in line with the school's marking policy. Homework can take a variety of forms, including:

- Writing tasks;
- Note-taking and writing up notes taken in lessons;
- Reading;
- Learning – for example: facts, vocabulary, spellings;
- Completing coursework;
- Research;
- Drawing or design work;
- Preparing for discussions or presentations;
- On-line learning;
- Answering questions;
- Completing worksheets;
- Revising for tests and exams

Incentives

High quality homework and a good work ethos should be sensitively praised in class. Where appropriate, homework should be included in display work. Bonus points or postcards home may be awarded for good homework.

Responsibilities

The role of the pupil

- To listen to homework instructions in class.
- To copy down instructions for the task and deadline date into the homework planner.
- To ensure that homework is completed and handed in to meet the deadline.
- To attempt all work and try their best.

The role of the Form Tutor

- To include homework in pupil mentoring where appropriate.
- To see that homework is being set and recorded.
- To check that the planner is being signed by the parent/guardian.
- To note and respond to any comments written in diaries by parents.

The role of the Class Teacher

- The class teacher controls the direction of homework and the nature of tasks undertaken.
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The teacher will:

- Set homework according to the timetable.
- Provide the stimulus.
- Ensure the Curriculum Overview is updated termly on the school website as a point of reference for parents. This provides details of learning taking place across the curriculum.
- Give full and comprehensive instructions.
- Set deadlines for completed work and ensure that they are met.
- Mark and return all homework – sign, peer, self-assess, grade or provide written feedback.
- Provide help and support.

The role of the Parent/Carer

The role of the parent/carers is crucial if a child is to gain success from homework. To reinforce its value through positive feedback will give students the confidence to persevere, work hard and reach high standards of achievement.

Parents/Carers can assist by:

- Providing a quiet place to work.
- Checking the time spent on individual tasks.
- Checking presentation and content of all homework being returned to school.
- Providing the school with information about any problems through the homework planner or by contacting the school directly
- Expectations: How much and by whom?

The expectation of the length of homework will depend on: the curriculum time for each subject; the nature of the work; the ability of the pupil, and the particular Year Group.

Parental Involvement

Parents will be contacted at the beginning of the academic year to explain what to expect. They will be encouraged to assist in many ways, helping their children at home, monitoring homework and providing encouragement for their child. They will be asked to contact school if an issue arises.

Specific details of homework for each phase follow.

Equal Opportunities

The governors and staff are committed to providing the full range of opportunities for all pupils regardless of gender, disability, and ethnicity, social, cultural or religious background. All pupils have access to the curriculum, and the right to a learning environment, which dispels ignorance, prejudice or stereotyping.

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 setting homework there are a number of points to consider: -

1. The nature and type of homework changes throughout a pupils' school career.
2. Amount and frequency of homework should increase as pupil gets older.
3. Homework should not cause undue stress on the pupil, family or teacher.
4. It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.
5. Homework should be set regularly from the Foundation Stage to Year 11.

Recommended Time Allocation

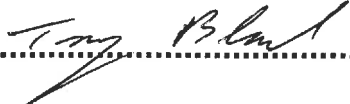
Homework should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the pupil's family. If parents have any concerns they should not hesitate to contact the school. Normally, more than one day will be allowed for the completion of a homework task and also it should encompass a weekend, except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

The following are government recommendations as appropriate time allocations for homework activities:

Year Group	Time	Activities
Reception Year 1 & 2	Up to 30 minutes per week	Reading or a reading activity. Additional activities such as flash cards, tricky words etc. Maths if consolidation is needed.
Year 3 & 4	Up to 45 minutes per week	Reading and reading related tasks. Maths. Topic work.
Year 5 & 6	Up to 1 hour per week	Reading and reading related tasks. Maths. Topic work or research.
Years 7 - 11	Up to 45 minutes per day	Reading and reading related tasks. Maths. Topic work. Course work.

Reading homework will be given on the day the pupil has read in class. The home/school diary will be checked by the class teacher on a daily basis. It plays a key role in home/school communication – both parents and teachers use these diaries, not only to keep track of the homework expectations, but also to send notes or reminders.

Approved by the Full Governing Body of Morecambe Road School on 15th July 2020

Signed: .....**Chair of Governors**

Signed:**Headteacher**
(Mr. P. Edmondson)
