

Reviewed: January 2017

Homework Policy

INTRODUCTION

According to the Department of Education, *"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 students 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 purpose of Homework

To develop an effective partnership between the school, parents and carers in:

- consolidating and reinforcing work done in class
- accessing resources for learning, of all kinds, at home
- encouraging pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own
- enabling students to complete coursework assignments

Special Educational Needs

Setting the right type and amount of homework for pupils with special educational needs is recognised as being very important. Some pupils will benefit from specific tasks that link to their individual targets/objectives.

Homework tasks for children with special educational needs will:

- have a very clear focus
- give pupils plenty of opportunity to succeed
- be varied (not purely written assignments)
- be manageable for teaching staff

Homework should be planned and published on the website in advance of each half termly programme of study/topic. A homework grid that presents pupils with a range of activities, tasks

and learning should be sent home prior to the start of a new topic (half termly). The homework grid will set out options allowing pupils to choose tasks that best meet their learning styles/preferences and strengths.

The homework should link to the half termly topic/theme. The homework should support learning in maths, English and other subjects where appropriate. The homework should be suitably challenging. The homework should be planned to motivate, interest and stimulate. The homework may be to research, plan or prepare a 'talk', presentation or 'show and tell'.

The homework may consolidate, reinforce or support classwork/learning. Homework should be varied. The homework should be achievable and should involve parents/carers.

Homework should be supported by resources – either sent home or readily available/accessible from home. Information and scaffolding should be available to parents/carers to enable them to support the task/learning.

Homework Completion

The completion of homework should be encouraged, celebrated, rewarded and highly valued by school staff, parents/carers and stakeholders. Pupil's homework should be marked or appraised in an appropriate way and feedback given as with other learning:

- Pupils should be encouraged to share, present or discuss homework.
- Completed homework and tasks, talks and presentations that have been prepared and researched outside of school should be shared and explicitly/publicly valued and acknowledged.
- Homework should be displayed wherever possible.
- Appropriate rewards, tokens and praise should be given to encourage completion.
- Certificates and postcards home for meeting targets or exceptional contribution/work.
- Failure to complete homework should not be punished but may result in loss of enrichment activities/golden-time or Friday reward sessions.

_____ ***Chair***

_____ ***Date***