



Updated and approved by the Headteacher – January 2024

Homework Policy

Introduction

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 to develop skills and attitudes they need for successful lifelong learning. Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day, which contributes to their learning in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning.

Aims

The aims of homework are:

- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner.
- To promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning.
- To consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons.
- To help children develop good work habits for the future.

Homework at our school

Whilst we support all of the above key principles, we are not schools at which homework dominates home and school life. We accept that not every activity will capture children and parents' imagination and that weekends can sometimes be busy. We believe that homework should be enjoyable and manageable for all concerned and that if it becomes a chore/burden/source of conflict it ceases to be a constructive aspect of teaching and learning.

Although we suggested time to be spent on a task, we recognize that individual children and families need to set their own routines. Individual teachers are happy to give advice.

We hope the children are motivated by positive incentives and by the tasks themselves. However, children will be required to complete homework during the school day if it is not completed at home.

Our routines and expectations

On a weekly basis, children are expected to read, practice spelling and maths.

Broadly speaking these are current expectations:

	Reading	Spelling / phonics	Maths
Nursery and reception	shared reading 3 times a week	Suggestion sheets	Home challenge



Year 1	reading with an adult 3 times a week	Daily phonics practice through reading	Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFS)
Year 2	reading with an adult 3 times a week	Daily spelling practice	Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFS)
Years 3 and 4	reading with an adult 3 times a week 1 x Reading Plus	Daily spelling practice	TTRockstars Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFS)
Years 5 and 6	reading out loud to an adult 2 times a week 2 x Reading Plus	Daily spelling practice	TTRockstars Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFS)

KS1 Reading: Our reading routine will continue to follow our Little Wandle phonics scheme. Children will bring home their *learning to read book* that they have read with an adult already. Children should be able to fluently read these books with little support. For more information regarding our new reading routine please watch the following video presentation which can give further explanation and clarity:

<https://sharownyorkssch.sharepoint.com/sites/Curriculum/Shared%20Documen...>

Children will also bring home a *share book* which should be read to your child by a parent/carer. This may be as a bedtime story and allows children to have lots of exposure to modelling of tone, intonation, expression etc.

Reading records are to be used by parents; to comment in and record their reading at home.

KS2 Reading: Children should read aloud to an adult to support their development of reading fluency and expression.

As in KS1, having stories read aloud to them should continue, further developing tone, intonation and expression as the text becomes more complex. Exposure of and discussion around word meaning, inferred messages and news and magazine articles is beneficial.

Reading Plus is personalised to each child's interests and academic strengths—and builds cross-curricular content area knowledge. Children should be aiming to score 80% or more in order to be awarded a Combo.

Reading records are to be used by parents; to comment in and record their reading at home.

Spelling: An overview of the terms' spellings will be stuck in the front of reading records. Each week children will learn a new spelling pattern and words to practice. A spelling test will be take place every Friday and the results of each test will be recorded onto their spelling overview sheet. Any incorrect words will be highlighted for further practice at home before a second test takes place on a Wednesday.

Maths:

Home learning is used to develop fluency and application of the Key Instant Recall Facts through a range of White Rose Maths tasks or Purple Mash 2DOs.



From partway through year 2, Times Tables Rockstars is used to develop times tables knowledge:

Times table progression

By the end of year...	Recall and use multiplication and division facts for...
2	2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables
3	3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables
4	Multiplication tables up to 12 x 12
5	Apply their times table knowledge to related division facts and inverses, whilst working on any gaps from previous years.
6	Apply their times table knowledge to related division facts and inverses, whilst working on any gaps from previous years.

We expect children to maintain the same standards for presentation of homework as we set in school i.e. to use their best handwriting and a sharp pencil or pen.

Prior to SAT tests, the Year 6 children may be given additional revision work.

It is our policy not to give homework over the holidays and half term breaks. The exception will be where the parent and teacher agree extra work would be beneficial.

Parents as partners

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as they feel necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best:

- a quiet area with a table
- if possible, no television to be on

What to do if you have concerns

If you find the homework inappropriate for your child, if they lack interest, if it becomes a battleground or if you are concerned that homework is given inconsistently, please talk with your child's teacher in the first instance.

If you still have concerns, please talk with Jacqui Palmer, the Headteacher.