



HOMework POLICY

Presented	September 2016
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Chair of Governors	Mary Tailby

Rothwell C of E Primary Academy Homework Policy

Introduction

At Rothwell C of E Primary we recognise that modern family life is demanding and that there are many pressures on family time. We therefore see homework as anything that the children do outside of the school day that contributes to their learning. This includes attending clubs, out of school activities and other organisations. Even something as simple as reading a bedtime story to your child contributes to their learning and can therefore be regarded as homework.

For this reason, any traditional homework tasks sent home by class teachers will be carefully considered so as to compliment the learning that children are already engaged in at school. The homework tasks we set are therefore important but should not prevent children from taking part in out-of-school clubs and organisations.

Rationale

Set homework is a very important part of a child's education and can add to a child's development. These tasks will help to raise a child's attainment, but we also acknowledge that play and free time also help growth and development. Children benefit greatly from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. We also greatly value the partnership and dialogue that this fosters between parents and teachers. We strive to develop children's independent learning and we believe that homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire this skill.

Aims and Objectives of Set Homework

- to maximise learning for both academic development and personal growth;
- to consolidate and reinforce learning undertaken in school;
- to prepare for learning yet to take place in school;
- to develop effective partnerships between the school and parents/carers;
- to ensure pupils develop learning skills such as self- confidence, self-discipline and independence

Types of Homework

Research tells us that short, focused tasks which relate to what is being taught and which are built on in school has the best impact on learning. We therefore set Maths and Literacy homework based on this at three levels of challenge: gold, silver and bronze. Children can choose which level of difficulty they would like to tackle.

In order for children to develop invaluable learning skills we also set them projects to complete in Years 3-6. Children have the freedom to meet a learning objective in a way that is relevant, personal and of interest to them. They give children the opportunity to develop skills in research and presentation whilst allowing them to be creative and show the full depth of their learning. Tasks are open-ended and allow children of all abilities the opportunity to complete them successfully.

All children will have 2 reading books. KS1 will be given 2 scheme books and KS2 will have one scheme and one 'real' book at the appropriate level. Children may read either book at home.

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Timing of Homework

Wherever possible, homework is given out on Wednesday to be returned by the following Monday. The exceptions to this are reading books which are changed regularly and research projects which have an extended completion period of 2 weeks.

Amount of Homework

Year	Expectation
Reception	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read daily with a minimum of one comment in reading records each week.• Practise phonemes and words as they are introduced.• Complete individual activities in the home Learning Log as appropriate.
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read daily with a minimum of one comment in reading records each week.• Practise phonemes and words as they are introduced.• Complete spelling activities.
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read daily with a minimum of one comment in reading records each week.• Practise phonemes and words as they are introduced.• Complete spelling activities.• Complete either a Maths or Literacy homework once a week.
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read daily with a minimum of one comment in reading records each week.• Complete spelling activities/times table practice.• Complete Maths or Literacy Homework once a week.• Complete occasional Research projects as appropriate (maximum 1 per topic).
Year 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read daily with a minimum of one comment in reading records each week.• Complete spelling activities/times table practice.• Complete Maths or Literacy Homework once a week.• Complete occasional Research projects as appropriate (maximum 1 per topic).
Year 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read daily with a minimum of one comment in reading records each week.• Complete spelling activities/times table practice.• Complete Maths Homework once a week.• Complete Literacy Homework once a week.• Complete occasional Research projects as appropriate (maximum 1 per topic).
Year 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read daily with a minimum of one comment in reading records each week.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete spelling activities/times table practice.• Complete Maths Homework once a week.• Complete Literacy Homework once a week.• Complete occasional Research projects as appropriate (maximum 1 per topic).• Undertake directed SATs preparation.
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Children who do not complete homework will be supported in the academy to ensure they gain the benefits of this in line with other children. To achieve this, we offer a homework club after school 3 times a week and a compulsory weekly break time catch up session.

Additional Learning Opportunities

All children have access to Mathletics and some have access to Lexia. These are online programs to support learning and children are supplied with individual passwords. If you would like more information about these or a copy of your child's password then please contact the class teacher.

Pupils with Additional Needs

At Rothwell C of E Primary we believe that all children have the right to have homework set that matches the ability of the child. If children struggle to complete homework tasks additional support and guidance can be accessed by attending our homework club or weekly catch-up sessions. Parents/Carers are also welcome to discuss problems with homework with class teachers.

Those attending Gifted and Talented interventions may also be given homework and challenges in addition to those outlined for their year group.

Partnerships with Parents/Carers

School and parents/carers work in a partnership to further each child's education. We encourage them to help their children as necessary and encourage them to complete homework tasks set. For this reason we have set Monday as the due date so that you know when your child is expected to submit work. As a school we endeavour to inform parents about the learning strategies used at Rothwell C of E Primary. This may take the form of information booklets or involve workshops on supporting children in specific subjects or with specific learning, e.g. phonics.

If parents/carers have any questions or concerns about homework then they should contact the class teacher. If questions are more general then they should contact the Principal or Vice Principal.

Monitoring and Review

Changes made to the homework policy are made with public consultation whether this is using the annual 'parent survey' or a more formal consultation process. It is the responsibility of the Governing Body to agree the homework policy following consultations. The policy will be reviewed every three years (or earlier should issues arise from inspection, monitoring or self-evaluation).