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| Responsibility of | Curriculum Committee |
| This version dated | February 2016 |
| Reviewed by staff | February 2016 |
| Adopted by Governors | February 2016 |
| Next review date | February 2019 |
| Meets Equality of Opportunity | Yes |
| Safeguarding reference made | No |

Statement

We believe that our children benefit from being given a limited amount of work to do outside the school day, either on their own, or, more usually, with their parents. Homework is purposeful “out of class learning” and it should be viewed as an essential part of good education that supports children’s development as independent learners. Homework involves all year groups although it may look different according to the age of the children, and can encompass a wide range of activities.

This policy aims to ensure that we have a consistent approach to homework throughout the school and forms a part of the school’s strategy to raise standards in literacy and numeracy and develop in our children the skills and attitudes necessary for independent learning.

Homework should not put pressure on young children or prevent them from relaxing and spending quality time with their families at home. We want to maintain a balance between helping children learn through the provision of homework opportunities and ensuring that they have time to play and follow their individual chosen recreational activities.

Aims

- To consolidate, reinforce and extend both skills and understanding previously taught in school
- To allow children to discuss and reflect on their learning with their parents thereby developing an effective learning partnership between home and school
- To take advantage of resources for learning of all kinds
- To develop the involvement of parents in their children’s education and to help keep parents informed as to their children’s learning and progress
- To further personalise learning giving individuals extended opportunities to pursue their interests and to challenge themselves.

Types of Homework

Reading: regular reading to and with parents is vital.

All children will be asked to read at home or to share a book with their parents or other family members for between 10 and 20 minutes each day. As a guide:

Year R – 5-10 minutes

Year 1 – 10-15 minutes

Year 2 – 15- 20 minutes

Spelling

Children in Year R will be asked to practise high frequency words (Teddy Words) initially as part of their reading and later as a spelling activity.

Children in Years 1 and 2 will be expected to learn spellings each week in addition to their reading.

Homework Challenges – for all Year Groups

“Homework Challenges” will be set in all year groups which will be specifically linked to focused work being carried out in the classroom. In order for staff to feedback on Homework Challenges a date for completion of tasks will be given.

Homework challenges will reflect different areas of the curriculum throughout the year. We will seek a variety of ways to share children’s efforts and achievement in undertaking these homework activities.

Additionally there will be regular writing challenges set. These will be for all year groups and will be differentiated appropriately so they are accessible to all year groups.

Maths

Parents in all year groups will be sent some useful ideas that they can use which will support the learning of mathematics at home each half term.

Additionally Year One and Year Two children will be given maths homework from September. Parents of Year Two children will be encouraged to support children with learning their times tables. There will also be encouragement for children in Year R and Year One to support them in becoming conversant with numbers, place value and number facts.

Talk Homework

Talk Homework will be promoted for all children on a given subject each week. The purpose of this is to develop language through the exploration of ideas. The subject of each “Talk Homework” will be revisited in school in each class. By discussing the topic with adults/carers at home first, it is hoped that the classroom discussion will be richer and children will be confident to share their ideas.

ICT

There will be opportunities provided, at least termly for children to re-visit previous learning, and to supplement and practise new skills and current topics through this medium at home.

Linked Policies

Mathematics Policy

Literacy Policy (Writing/Reading/Spelling and Phonics)

Marking Policy

Assessment Policy

ICT Policy

SEND Policy