



## **Policy on Homework**

### **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 Homework is anything children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning, in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents/carers to support the children's learning. For example, parents or carers who spend time reading stories to their children before bedtime are helping with homework.

### **2 Rationale for homework**

- 2.1 Homework is a very important part of a child's education, and can add much to a child's development. We recognise that the educational experience that any school by itself can provide is limited by the time and resources available; children can therefore benefit greatly from the complementary learning that they do at home. Indeed, we see homework as an important example of cooperation between teachers and parents/carers. One of the aims of our teaching is for children to develop as independent learners, and we believe that doing homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.
- 2.2 Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. However, we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the activities of various out-of-school clubs and of other organisations that play an important part in the lives of our pupils. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe that they develop their interests and skills to the full only when parents/carers encourage them to make maximum use of the opportunities available outside school.

### **3 Aims and objectives**

- 3.1 The aims and objectives of homework are:
- to enable pupils to make progress in their academic and social development;
  - to help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
  - to promote cooperation between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
  - to consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school, and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons;
  - to help children develop good work habits for the future.

### **4 Types of homework**

- 4.1 Staff and pupils regard homework as an integral part of the curriculum – it is planned and prepared alongside all other programmes of learning.
- 4.2 At the commencement of each school year parents will be provided with information during the Curriculum Evening on the homework framework for the particular year group.
- 4.4 Homework completed well is acknowledged and praised. There may be issues arising from the work, which the teacher will follow up in lesson time.

- 4.5 We recognise that children have individual learning styles, which means that some tasks can be completed in a number of different ways, while others demand a particular approach.

## **5 Amount of homework**

- 5.1 As they move through the school, we increase the amount of homework that we give the children. These arrangements are explained in detail at the Curriculum Evenings.

## **6 Inclusion and homework**

- 6.1 We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. Tasks set should be appropriate to the ability of the child, and we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

## **7 The role of parents and carers**

- 7.1 Parents and carers have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents and carers to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as and when they feel it to be necessary, and to provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents and carers can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and by discussing the work that their child is doing.
- 7.2 We ask parents and carers to check the homework daily and to sign it as requested.
- 7.3 If parents and carers have any questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If their questions are of a more general nature, they should contact the head of year. Finally, if they wish to make a complaint about the school homework policy, or the way in which it is implemented, parents or carers should contact the principal.

## **8 Use of ICT**

- 8.1 We encourage the use of ICT and the internet. Parents should follow the guidelines set out in the school's policy on the 'Acceptable Use of the Internet'.

## **9 Monitoring and review**

- 9.1 This policy will be reviewed in two years, or earlier if necessary.

**Signed:**

**Date:**