



Homework Policy

North Heath Community Primary School, having regard for both the County's and the Government's guidelines on Private study/Homework in the primary school, and in consultation with teachers, governors and parents has recently reviewed its policy.

Homework should be a worthwhile extension of the pupils' activities in school and should not be considered a punishment or cause anxiety.

Our Aims

Homework should encourage pupils to:

- i. develop skills to enable independent learning,
- ii. develop a positive, self-motivating attitude to study,
- iii. take some responsibility for their work and learning,
- iv. consolidate and extend the skills learnt at school,
- v. provide opportunities for pupils to demonstrate their understanding,
- vi. involve their parents in their learning through discussion, encouragement, participation and support as and when appropriate.

The Homework Process

- All pupils in years 1 to 5 will be provided with a suitable book or folder in which to do their homework.
- Year 6 pupils may be asked to provide their own A4 ring binders as preparation for secondary school practice and to further promote independence.
- Years 5 and 6 will be provided with a homework diary in which to record the homework set. This should be signed by parents weekly, to indicate their child has attempted the homework.
- All pupils will have a copy of the homework policy and parent guidance either in their homework book (Y1 to 4) or their homework diary (Y5 and 6).
- These will also contain the regular times for setting and returning homework.

Homework will be sent home and should be returned to school, at an agreed time. Pupils must be allowed more than one day to complete any homework.

Parents and children will be advised of this schedule by their class teacher. The homework policy takes account of, and considers, pupils' education and life outside school in respect of clubs, relaxation and play, home life and other activities. Parents are invited to inform class teachers in person or through the homework book/diary if their child has a regular after-school commitment that will affect their ability to complete homework at the times set. In order for homework to be as positive as possible, the school can be flexible with deadlines.

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Age and level of ability will be taken into account when setting homework and assessing the tasks. Due to this, tasks will normally be differentiated and will be marked/assessed as appropriate, according to the tasks set.

Homework will be marked regularly in line with the Marking Policy. Teachers should respond to parents and pupils who have raised concerns or asked questions, establishing clear lines of communication. Marking should be constructive, encouraging and acknowledge effort. Response should be made to the learning intention or advice given for next steps (see Marking Policy for guidelines and marking codes).

All homework tasks must be discussed and explained in class when they are set. In the event of a pupil arriving home and not understanding the task set, or being unable to complete the work, they should share their concerns with the class teacher the next day in order to complete the homework in the time given. This should allow the teacher to monitor the pupil during the setting of homework to ensure understanding in the future.

All homework should be well presented and handed in on time. Homework tasks should be completed in the pupil's homework book. Where tasks are to be completed on printed sheets, these should be securely fastened into the homework book unless otherwise stated (eg – work for a display or electronic ICT). There may be times when additional homework activities are set and parents will be notified.

It is an expectation that poor work should be addressed in the pupil's own time. Parents will be informed via the Homework Diary (years 5 and 6) or Homework Book (years 1 – 4).

Homework Expectations

All pupils should read or share books with parents at least three times a week. This should be for 10 - 15 minutes in Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2) and 15 - 20 minutes in KS2 (Years 3 to 6).

Key Stage 1

Reception

No regular homework but letters and sounds may be sent home for practice depending on a pupil's needs.

Year One

1 piece of homework weekly (20 minutes)

This can include spelling, mathematics, English or topic work

Daily Reading

Year Two

1 piece of homework weekly (30 minutes)

This can include spelling, mathematics, English or topic work

Daily Reading

Key Stage 2

Year Three

1 piece of English or topic (20 minutes including spellings)

1 piece of mathematics homework weekly (20 minutes)

Multiplication tables (10 minutes)

Daily Reading

Year Four

1 piece of English or topic (30 minutes including spellings)

1 piece of mathematics homework weekly (20 minutes)

Multiplication tables (10 minutes)

Daily Reading

Year Five

1 piece of English or topic (30 minutes)

1 piece of mathematics homework (30 minutes)

1 piece of spelling homework (15 minutes)

Multiplication tables (15 minutes)

Daily Reading

Year Six

1 piece of English or topic (60 minutes including spellings and SATs revision)

1 piece of mathematics homework weekly (60 minutes including Multiplication tables and SATs revision)

Daily Reading

Appendix 1

Key Stage One – Helping with Homework; advice for parents



This is what you can do
to help:

- ★ **E**ncourage and praise your child
- ★ **N**ominate a regular work time and space
- ★ **C**hoice and independence are important

APPENDIX 2

A Guide to Helping with Homework in Key Stage 2

Homework is intended as an opportunity to reinforce skills learnt at school. Children should, therefore, be able to complete their homework independently.

Children should;

- ✓ have a regular time and place for their work (usually no longer than 30 minutes)
- ✓ have the right equipment for the tasks
- ✓ show they understand the task by explaining it to an adult before starting
- ✓ work independently (with breaks if needed)
- ✓ be responsible for taking it to and from school
- ✓ ask a teacher for help if they are unsure of what is expected or how to continue
- ✓ **stop** if the task takes too long or they are becoming distressed

Parents can help by;

- ✓ remaining calm and positive
- ✓ encouraging and praising all efforts
- ✓ asking your child to explain their ideas and methods (they may be different from the ones you use)
- ✓ informing the teacher if your child struggled with particular parts of the homework
- ✓ encouraging a routine of packing school bags the night before
- ✓ signing the homework diary

APPENDIX 3

Parent/s/Carer/s and pupil comments about the Homework Guidelines/Policy

The school is revising its Homework Policy and would appreciate input from parents and pupils as well as staff and governors. We would be pleased if you would discuss this document at home and share this document with your child/ren. If you or your child/ren have a suggestion/comment to make about the guidelines and policy enclosed, please indicate below and return to school. We will consider all your responses before finalising the document. We have sent a copy for each child as views may differ. Please help us by completing appendix 3, the questionnaire, and returning it to school **by the end of this term.**

Thank you for your consideration and time.

1. Is having Homework worthwhile in supporting pupils' learning? (Please answer yes or no)

Pupil.....

Parent/s/Carer/s.....

2. Are the Guidelines clear and understandable? (Please answer yes or no)

Pupil.....

Parent/s/Carer/s

3. Do you find the appendices useful? (Please answer yes or no)

Pupil.....

Parent/s/Carer/s

4. Do you think the Time Guide and tasks are appropriate for each year group? (Please answer yes or no)

Pupil.....

Parent/Carer

If not please give your ideas below

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5. Is your child usually able to complete homework independently?
(please circle one response)

yes usually no

6. Have you any other comment to make about Homework (eg – use of home: school diaries, online opportunities, homework clubs).

Pupil

Parent

Name of Pupil _____

Class _____

Signature of Pupil _____

Signature of Parent/s/Carer/s _____

Thank you for your help.

M Gildea and N Chesshire