



HAYTON C E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Homework Policy

Date: April 2022

Signed:

Review: April 2023

Introduction

“A good well-managed homework programme helps children and young people to develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful lifelong learning. Homework also supports the development of independent learning skills and provides parents with an opportunity to take part in their children’s education.”

Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers to support children’s learning and help them to become independent learners.

Homework plays a positive role in raising a child’s level of attainment. We also acknowledge the important role of free time in a child’s growth and development and while homework is important it should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out of school clubs and organisations that play an important part in the lives of many children.

Aims and Objectives

The aims of the school’s Homework Policy are:

- To ensure a whole school consistent approach to homework;
- To promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child’s learning;
- To achieve progression towards independence and a pupil’s responsibility for their own learning;
- To make sure the needs of individual pupils are taken into account when setting homework;
- To extend and support the learning experience through reinforcement and revision, particularly in literacy and numeracy;
- To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences;
- To encourage pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline for independent study as they mature; and
- To prepare children in year 6 for secondary transfer.

The Purpose of Homework

The purpose of homework changes as children progress through the school. Short activities of different kinds - simple games, learning spellings and number facts and reading together - provide a very important opportunity for young children to talk about what they are learning to an interested adult, therefore involving them in their learning and enabling them to practise key skills in a supportive and secure environment.

As children get older homework provides an opportunity for children to develop the skills of independent learning. They should be able to work for regular, though short periods, by themselves. As children reach Year 6, they will be given a range of tasks covering different curriculum areas. However, the emphasis will generally be literacy and numeracy and there is a clearly defined weekly schedule so that children and parents know what work to expect.

Type of Work Sent Home

For homework to be really effective there needs to be involvement of parents and carers for some of the time. The ‘finishing off’ of work set in the day and copying of notes is not a feature of the school’s homework policy except in extenuating circumstances and, on occasion, may be given to a small number

of children. It is important that there is a balance of tasks so that the planning and feedback is manageable by the teacher and completion is achievable by the pupils. Therefore, there will be some differentiation over the homework set to take account of the children's range of ability.

Amount of homework

We increase the amount of homework as children move through the school. The length of time recommended for homework follows DfE guidelines.

Expectations

It is the expectation that all children will at least attempt to complete homework tasks to the best of their ability.

If pupils need support to access these activities, then they are invited to ask staff for help.

Dates for handing homework in are always made explicit by the class teacher.

Pupils are expected to complete homework to the same high standards insisted on in class e.g. neat handwriting, accurate use of full stops and capital letters etc.

A written set of expectations will be given to inform parents of the standards we expect from each piece of homework.

Pupils with SEND

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special needs, we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way. When setting homework for SEND pupils, we may refer to the Individual Education Plan (IEP).

The Role of Parents

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 which are set. We invite them to help their child as they feel necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows them to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by giving access to fiction and non-fiction books and by discussing the work their child is doing. If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should contact the child's class teacher.

Feedback for Pupils, Parents or Carers and Teachers

All pupils are given a school planner at the beginning of the year and this is a two way communication book between parents/carers and teachers.

How Parents can help children with their homework

Below is a list of ways that you as a parent can show your child that you value their homework and the time and effort spent completing it. Hayton school will also provide clear and regular reminders of their expectation when it comes to homework. As a school we hope that you will find this guidance helpful in supporting your child fully with their homework.

- You can show you value your child's homework by:

- Providing a suitable place in which your child can do their homework, preferably with an adult to discuss, encourage and support
- Making it clear to your child that you value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help learning
- Encouraging your child and praising them when they have completed work set
- Signing and dating your child's completed homework to show that it is a true reflection of their best efforts
- Ensuring work is complete and returned to school on time
- Checking your child spends a suitable amount of time on homework

Additionally, you can support your child's development by:

- Visits to libraries, museums etc.
- Cooking with them
- Taking your child swimming
- Playing games, e.g. board games, cards, ball games
- Watching informative TV programmes together
- Providing opportunities for craft activities, e.g. cutting, sticking, sewing, painting etc.
- Gardening and growing plants
- Using the internet to research something with your child (following guidelines for safe internet use)
- Talking to your child about schoolwork, their day, what they have been learning about and how they have been learning

Please remember: Homework is about reinforcing, practicing and confidence building. Enthusiasing your child about undertaking homework and modelling the high value of homework to them is of key importance. Make it fun!

Monitoring and Review

Staff and Governors will monitor and review this Homework Policy as appropriate.