

# **WEST PARK CE PRIMARY SCHOOL**



## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

Original developed by:	Headteacher
Date:	July 2010
Reviewed:	September 2016
Reviewed by:	Headteacher
Date:	April 2017
Date agreed by Governors:	May 2017
Next review due:	Spring term 2020

## HOMWORK POLICY

"Learning at home is an essential part of the good education to which all our children are entitled. It is not just about reinforcing learning in the classroom, although that is important. A good, well organised homework programme helps children and young people to develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful, independent lifelong learning.

Homework supports the development of independent learning skills, so enquiry and investigation are seen as part of the learning process. Given the increasing importance to everyone of flexibility and the ability to learn independently, developing these skills and attitudes must be a central aim for all schools." (Homework: Guidelines for Primary and Secondary Schools - DCFS)

### PURPOSE OF HOMEWORK

Through this policy we aim to:

- Develop an effective partnership between the school and parents or carers with all having a clear understanding about expectations;
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school;
- Ensure the needs of individuals are considered;
- Improve the quality of learning experiences offered to children;
- Consolidate and re-enforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and maths;
- Exploit resources for learning, of all kinds, at home;
- Encourage children to study on their own, as they get older. (Preparation for secondary school.)
- To extend school learning, for example through additional reading;
- To encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own, and to prepare them for the requirements of secondary school.

**At EYFS/KS1** the key purposes are:

- Actively involving carers in children's learning;
- Practising key skills - simple games, spellings, number facts, reading.

**At KS2** the key purposes are:

- Practising key skills - times tables, maths concepts taught that week, spellings, reading;
- Developing skills of independent learning;
- Developing a habit of a regular weekly schedule.

### The purpose of homework

Children will be set the type and amount of homework which is appropriate to their age. The main focus will be English and Maths. It is the involvement of parents and carers in joint activities which is most valuable in promoting children's learning. It is intended that the amount of homework will

reinforce daily learning in school and leave sufficient time for hobbies, clubs and other activities. **Homework is an expectation of our school and is not optional. Non-completion of homework will be discussed with parents at Parents Evenings but teaching time will not be spent following this up.**

For children in **EYFS** homework should largely consist of regular reading with parents and carers, sharing, discussing and enjoying books together.

Other English related homework will include;

- Practising phonic sounds and blends

In Maths, homework may include;

- Number games and tasks e.g. counting, numicon games and number bonds

For children in **Year 1 and 2** homework should largely consist of regular reading with parents and carers, sharing, discussing and enjoying books together.

Other English related homework will include;

- Practising spelling patterns and words

In Maths, homework may include;

- Number games and tasks e.g. Learning times tables
- Practising maths concepts and using methods taught in class

For children in **Year 3,4 ,5 and 6** should largely consist of regular reading with parents and carers, gradually becoming reading independently and then discussing the text.

Other English related homework will include;

- Practising spelling patterns and words

In Maths, homework will include;

- Learning times tables
- Practising maths concepts and using methods taught in class

**Written Maths homework will be sent home in the Maths Homework book on the Wednesday in each class, this will be differentiated according to each child's progress in that area that week. The homework will include a worked example to show parents the method we are using and the class will have a dedicated lesson to review and mark this work. The day for handing this in will be shared by the class teacher so that it allows at least 3 days to complete it. Each Year Group has detailed information in their Parent Information handbook.**

## Special Educational Needs

Some SEN children may benefit from special tasks separate from the homework set for other children in the class.

Any tasks should:

Be specific to each child e.g. tables should be specific to their rate of progress

## Planning and co-ordination of homework

The class teacher will be responsible for ensuring that the demands of homework are manageable for pupils and parents/carers on a day to day basis.

## The role of parents and carers in supporting pupils

Parents should:

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which pupils can do their homework- alone or together with an adult.
- Make it clear to pupils that they value homework, and support school in explaining how it can help their learning;
- Encourage pupils and praise them when they have completed homework.

## TYPE AND AMOUNT OF HOMEWORK AT DIFFERENT AGES

Tasks are carefully planned and structured to support progression in learning.

YEAR GROUP	SUBJECT	TIME ALLOCATION
Reception	Reading - sharing books Number- number games	5 mins 5x week 5 mins 2x week
Year 1	Reading - sharing books and gradually more independent reading Maths Spelling	Up to 5 minutes 5 x week Up to 5 minutes 5 x week Up to 10 mins a week
Year 2	Reading Maths Spelling	Up to 5 minutes 5 x week Up to 5 minutes 5 x week Up to 10 mins a week
Year 3	Reading Maths Spellings	Up to 7 minutes 5 x week Up to 7 minutes 5 x week Up to 15 mins a week eg 5 mins 3xweek

Year 4	Reading Maths Spellings	Up to 7 minutes 5 x week Up to 7 minutes 5 x week Up to 15 mins a week eg 5 mins 3xweek
Year 5	Reading Maths Spellings	Up to 10 minutes 5 x week Up to 10 minutes 5 x week Up to 20 mins a week eg 5 mins 4xweek
Year 6	Reading Maths Spellings  Practice SATs papers in Maths and reading will also be sent home each term when they have been completed and marked in school for you to share at home.	Up to 10 minutes 5 x week Up to 10 minutes 5 x week Up to 20 mins a week eg 5 mins 4xweek

### **HOMEWORK CLUBS in Year 6**

We recognise that sometimes children are unable to complete work at home and, in these cases, we are more than happy to discuss with children and parents opportunities that may be available in school for them to complete the work during the school day at, for example, break time.