



PRIMROSE HILL C OF E PRIMARY ACADEMY

Growing a brighter future together

HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework is a very emotive subject on which everyone connected to schools usually has an opinion. Some parents (and teachers) feel that homework should be set regularly while others feel equally passionately that it should not. This policy aims to lay out the benefits and negative aspects of setting homework and to provide a clear statement on our approach to learning beyond the school day. We strive to have a clear balance between instilling good habits for their future at secondary school and beyond whilst promoting family activities and hobbies.

The case for...

- Homework can be an effective way to reinforce learning and understanding gained in school.
- It can be an opportunity to develop children's self-discipline, responsibility and time management.
- It can extend the message that learning isn't something that just happens in school but it is a life-long skill which takes place everywhere and at any time.
- It prepares children for the rigours of homework at their secondary school.
- Learning in a different way, with a different person's support can aid understanding.

The case against...

- Can cause anxiety for children who do not understand.
- Can potentially have detrimental effect on children's attitude to learning and self-esteem.
- The work/life balance of the children.
- Some children regularly fail to complete homework as required.
- It is sometimes completed by the child's parent.
- Parents feel unable to assist and may feel like they are the one being tested.
- Parents worry that they are teaching their child to do it 'the wrong way.'
- Additional teacher workload in marking and assessing.
- Children often have clubs or activities and commitments that make it hard for them to complete homework.
- Evidence from the EEF that it doesn't impact on the attainment of primary aged pupils.

Responsible Dept: SLT

Implementation Date: September 2021

Policy Review Date: September 2022

Based on current research, at Primrose Hill C of E we believe that homework is best when it involves practice of subject matter already taught; is meaningful to the children and their class based learning; is efficient to complete but requires hard thinking; is able to be completed independently by children and impacts positively on motivation and attitude.

Homework Expectations

We expect every child to complete the following homework.

Reading: It is expected that all children read to an adult at home at least four times per week and record this in their reading record book, regardless of their age or reading ability. This practice and consolidation has a huge impact on the fluency of the child's reading. The Academy will provide reading scheme books linked to your child's reading ability. If your child's reading is fluent, they can supplement their scheme book with age appropriate texts from the school library, reading spine, public library and home.

Maths: Practising number facts will help your child with their maths fluency. All children have a Numbots or Times table rock star login and it is expected that each child will practise at least four times per week for 10 mins each time.

UKS2 English and Maths: Children in UKS2 (years 5 and 6) will complete weekly English and Maths activities. Each child will be given an English and Maths homework book which they will complete during the year.

Additional homework: Occasionally, teachers need to give additional homework to either individual children or the whole class. Teachers will use their professional judgement when deciding on additional homework using the criteria stated above. Additional homework may include: learning the statutory spellings for the year group; finishing a piece of learning from a lesson; practising a specific task e.g. lines for a play; targeted learning to address a misconception or plug a gap in understanding.

The role of the Head Teacher

- Check compliance of the policy
- Monitor the effectiveness of the policy
- With the Senior Leaders, review the policy
- Discuss the implementation of the policy with staff
- Meet with parents as appropriate
- Keep parents and carers informed about any changes and inform new parents about the Homework Policy

The role of the teachers

- Provide the children with a levelled reading book
- Set appropriate times tables on TTRS
- UKS2 teachers to set weekly Maths and English homework
- Monitor homework e.g. reading records and TTRS and reward/sanction children accordingly
- Communicate with parents if there is a problem regarding homework and offer support where necessary

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The role of parents/carers

- Support their child in completing homework
- Sign reading records to show that reading has been completed
- Encourage and be involved with their child to have a positive attitude towards homework
- Ensure their child completes homework to a high standard and on time
- Provide a suitable place and equipment for their child to complete homework
- Inform teachers of any issues that may arise
- Keep the Academy informed of any change in circumstance which may affect their child's learning and homework

The role of pupils

- Take responsibility for their own learning and complete homework
- Have a positive approach towards homework
- Put the same effort into homework as would be expected of class work

Absences

If a pupil is absent from school due to illness or medical reasons the Academy will not expect homework to be completed because pupils may not be well enough to undertake the work. In some cases, there may be exceptions to this rule and the Academy has the right to decide whether this is acceptable or not. If the child is absent for a long period of time eg with a broken arm, the teacher and the parent of the pupil will agree what should be done and how much help should be given to the pupil.

Homework Sanctions

All pupils are expected to complete the reading and maths fluency homework every week. Teachers will monitor reading records and TTRS weekly and contact parents if homework is not completed. Children who fail to complete the reading and maths fluency homework will be expected to attend a homework club at break and lunchtime.

Pupils with SEND

While pupils with SEND may benefit from special tasks separate from the homework received from other pupils, it is important that they also do as much in common with other pupils. A balanced amount of the right type of homework will be set for pupils with SEND, in consultation with the parents and SENDCo.

Equal Opportunities

Primrose Hill C of E Primary Academy, governors and staff members are committed to providing the full range of opportunities for all pupils, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity and social, cultural or religious background. All pupils have equal access and inclusive rights regardless of their gender, race, disability or ability.

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