**Moorside Community Primary School**



**Homework Policy**

**Our Purpose**

Moorside Community Primary is a school at the heart of our diverse community in the West End of Newcastle.

We pride ourselves in belonging to a caring school community where everyone is welcome.

We strive to deliver an outstanding education for all our children.

We help everyone to become caring and active citizens.

We encourage everyone to thrive and achieve their full potential.

**Our Vision**

We want everyone in our school to work together to make us as good as any school can be.

We want to create new opportunities for everyone to succeed.

We want to create a culture which broadens all of our horizons.

We want everyone to be able to tackle the challenges we will face in an ever changing world.

We want all of our children to engage with each other and with our community.

**Our values**

**We all believe...**

Our local community deserves a school they can be proud of.

We are a caring community where everyone is welcome.

We all value, respect and support each other.

Our community has the right to be safe and healthy.

Our children should have the chance to enjoy and be enthused by their time in our school.

**We all agree...**

Everyone will always try their best and take pride in all that they do.

Everyone will demonstrate good manners at all times.

Everyone will respect each other and show consideration.

Everyone will respect and care for our environment and resources.

Everyone will celebrate each other’s successes and achievements.

**Rationale**

Homework allows children the opportunity to consolidate their learning outside of school, as well as helping to develop their skills of independence and self-reliance. It contributes to establishing the capacity for lifelong learning in children, and offers opportunities for actively involving parents as partners in their children’s learning. Homework is differentiated to meet the needs of individual pupils. Homework should be understood by pupils and parents, and not be seen as an onerous task

Although homework is not compulsory it can be beneficial to children’s learning.

**Purpose**

* To enable consolidation of knowledge, skills and concepts which have been introduced in lessons.
* To consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding, particularly in English and maths.
* To develop the capacity of children to work independently, and to take increasing responsibility for their own learning.
* To provide opportunities for parents and children to work together.
* To allow parents to gain an understanding of what children are learning in school.

**Aims**

* To ensure a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
* To ensure that teachers, parents and children have a clear understanding of the values and benefits regarding expectations for homework.
* To ensure that teachers, parents and children are fully aware of what the school expects of and requires from them with regard to homework. As a school we will aim to run homework clubs for those children who wish to attend.

**Role of the school**

* To provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework.
* To ensure this policy is fully and consistently followed.
* To support parents/carers by providing them with information about homework.

**Role of the teacher**

* To plan and set a programme of homework that is appropriate to the needs of the child.
* To ensure all children understand the homework they have been given.
* To give verbal feedback to children and light mark their work when appropriate.
* To be available to talk to parents and children about homework.
* To respond to parental concern about homework.

**Homework Tasks**

Listed below are a number of example tasks and activities that might be given as homework. This is by no means an exhaustive list and is open to regular review, although many of these tasks and activities will be used on a regular basis. Homework activities will change to meet the needs of the pupils involved and activities that might be occurring in class. All homework tasks and activities will have a clear purpose and assist pupils in the process of their academic development.

**Foundation Stage**

These may include:

* Reading books and key words
* Counting up and down stairs, number of jumps, number of tins etc
* Reciting nursery and counting rhymes
* Identification of shapes in the environment
* Fastening and unfastening buttons and zips and tying shoelaces – getting dressed and undressed etc

**Year 1 and Year 2**

These may include:

* Reading set books and key words
* Learning spellings
* Learning number facts including learning times tables (in Year 2 the x2, x5 and x10).
* English activities
* Maths activities
* Real life number related problems e.g. shopping, car, bus and house numbers, use of TV, remote control
* Handwriting practise

**Year 3 and Year 4**

These may include:

* Reading including comprehension activities
* Learning spellings
* English activities
* Maths activities
* Handwriting practise
* Learning number facts including learning times tables (Year 3 x3, 4 and 8, Year 4 x7 and x9)
* Researching themes/topics

**Year 5 and Year 6**

They may include:

* Reading including comprehension activities
* Learning spellings
* Discussions that involves sharing the focus for a future piece of writing
* Handwriting practise
* Researching topics
* Times Tables – revision of all (12 x 12)
* Maths activities including practising calculation strategies learned in class
* Researching themes/topics

**Role of the Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body**

* To check compliance with the Policy and review regularly.
* To meet and talk with parents when appropriate.
* To discuss with staff how far the policy is being successfully implemented.
* To keep the Policy under review to ensure its effectiveness.

At Moorside Community Primary School we are very keen for parents to support and help their children with homework. We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved as long as they do not take over too much. However, there are times when we will want to see what children can manage by themselves. Where possible we will highlight this “with support” or “independently” on work information sheet or in their books. It is particularly important, as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be, they should discuss it with their child's teacher.

As children progress towards Year 6 they may often be given additional activities and this will also include SATs revision. It is expected that parents encourage greater independence as children move into upper Key Stage 2.

We hope this guidance is helpful about homework at Moorside Community Primary School. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

**Other Policies linked to Homework**

* Teaching and Learning Policy
* Marking and Feedback Policy

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| **Date to be implemented**  | September 2018  |
| **Date to be reviewed**  | July 2019  |