

**Homework Policy**

**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.

**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.
* 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.

**What are the aims of this policy?**

* To ensure a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
* To ensure that teachers, parents and children have a clear understanding regarding expectations for homework.
* To ensure that teachers, parents and children are fully aware of the role they play with regard to homework.

**What is the role of the school?**

* To provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework.
* To ensure this policy is fully and consistently followed.
* To provide support for parents with information about homework.

**What is the 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.
* 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 constant change, 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. 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 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 T.V. remote control.
* Handwriting practise.

**Year 3 and Year 4**

These may include:

* Reading
* Learning spellings
* English activities
* Maths activities
* Handwriting practise
* Learning number facts including learning times tables (in Year 3 the x3, x4 and x8, Year 4 the x7 and x9)
* Reading comprehension activities.

**Year 5 and Year 6**

They may include:

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

**Role of the Head teacher and Governing Body**

* To check compliance of the Policy.
* To meet and talk with parents when appropriate.
* To discuss with staff how far the policy is being successfully implemented.

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. 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 has been helpful, and if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date reviewed**  | December 2017  |
| **Next review date** | September 2018  |