



Marshbrook First School Homework Policy September 2021

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Homework has a positive impact on learning (Education Endowment Foundation). However, we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the activities of various out-of-school clubs that play an important part in the lives of our pupils.

2 Aims and objectives

- 2.1 The aims and objectives of homework are:
- to support pupils to make maximum progress;
 - to help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
 - to promote co-operation between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
 - to consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school, and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons;
 - to help children develop good work habits for the future.

3 Types of homework

- 3.1 Staff and pupils regard homework as an integral part of the curriculum - it is planned and prepared alongside all other programmes of learning.
- 3.2 We set a variety of homework activities.
In all year groups we give children books to take home and read with their parents or independently depending upon age and ability. We give guidance to parents on achieving the maximum benefit from this time spent reading with their child.
In EYFS ideas for games and activities are provided on a regular newsletter and parents are invited into school for open mornings to find out what their child has been doing and participate in a number of activities alongside their child.
Children are also given common exception words to read and spell, when they are ready, along with phonic activities which are linked to the sounds they are learning in class.
In Key Stage 1 and 2 children are given regular spellings to learn at home along with number facts.
Other homework may be set periodically to consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school through practise at home.
- 4.3 Sometimes we may ask children to complete an optional project or piece of research linked to the topic they are learning about in school.
- 4.4 We recognise that children have individual learning styles, which means that some tasks can be completed in a number of different ways, while others

demand a particular approach. We encourage children to present homework neatly using the conventions they would use to present work in school.

5 Amount of homework

- 5.1** As they move through the school, we increase the amount of homework that we give the children. We expect children in Key Stage 1 to spend approximately one hour a week doing homework, although this may well include reading with a parent. We expect children in years 3 and 4 to spend approximately one and a half hours per week on homework.
- 5.2** We give all our pupils a diary where parents, teachers and on occasion, teaching assistants make any relevant comments about homework completed, including reading.

6 Inclusion and homework

- 6.1** 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, and we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

7 The role of parents

- 7.1** 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 that are set. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home and by discussing the work that their child is doing.
- 7.2** We ask parents to check the home-school diary at least once a week, and to sign/comment in it as requested.
- 7.3** If parents have any questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If their questions are of a more general nature, they should contact the headteacher.

9 Monitoring and review

- 9.2** The headteacher and governing body will agree and then monitor the school homework policy.
- 9.3** This policy will be reviewed in three years, or earlier if necessary.