



Wesley Methodist Primary School

Homework Policy

In order that our pupils can attain the highest standard (spiritual, moral, social, cultural and academic), we recognise the importance of an active educational partnership between home and school.

Homework is just one of the ways in which we seek to foster this partnership. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning.

Homework should not be a chore and is the choice of the parent. If the parent/s do not want their child to do or receive homework it is their right. If parents do not want to receive homework at all they should contact school. If parents want to receive homework and choose what to complete this is also acceptable. No child should receive punishment for not bringing in homework and will not be given any form of card. Children may receive dojos for bringing in homework.

Spelling and reading is expected of all children as a non-negotiable. Children should not be kept in at lunchtime for doing poorly on a test and should not be given a yellow card for low scores in spelling tests. They may receive dojos for doing well.

Homework should not be marked in class time by the children and should be marked by the class teacher. This should be used to inform assessment.

If parents would like their children to access more learning they can use 'I am learning' (children should know their password), bug club (reading) or can ask the class teacher.

Aims and Objectives

Regular, well planned homework can:

- Enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- Develop good work habits and self-discipline for the future

- Encourage skills and attitudes which help children improve their educational performance
- Help parents gain insight into their child's schoolwork and promote partnership between home and school.
- Provide opportunities for individualised work and develop skills of independent learning
- To consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and assist in preparation for future class work.
- Provide a context for pupil/parent interaction.

What is Homework?

Homework should not be a chore, but children should see it as an extension of their schoolwork. There may be occasions when some tasks are more challenging or difficult than usual as homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. We also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development.

We see homework as encompassing a wide range of possibilities. The following list gives just a few examples:

- reading with a parent
- finishing off work from the class
- undertaking individual research for a project at the local library
- learning number facts (tables)
- literacy activities both written and verbal

It can be seen from this list that homework can be a two way process. Teachers may ask for tasks to be done at home, but are delighted to learn about children's success in other aspects of their lives and will seek to recognise this in school.

What the school will offer:

During the school year every parent receives an invitation to meet with their child's class teacher (Parents Evenings) - to discuss progress and areas of study to be undertaken in relation to the National Curriculum. These discussions will include information about the types of homework which might be set by school as well as indicating activities parents might wish to develop with their children.

When teachers set homework they will ensure that:

- It is always clearly related to current areas of study within the classroom.
- The task is made clear to children and matched to their abilities, especially for those pupils with special educational needs.
- Time scales for completion and submission are explicit.

- Work is marked as promptly as possible.
- Problems or difficulties encountered by children are dealt with swiftly.
- Regular completion of homework of a high standard is recognised and celebrated.

Types and amount of homework

We increase the amount of homework that we give the children as they move through the school.

Foundation stage – Reception: (approximately 1 hr each week)

- Spelling books (returned weekly)
- Reading daily

Key Stage One: (approximately 1 hr each week)

- Spelling books (returned weekly)
- Reading daily
- Literacy work
- Maths work

Years 3 and 4: (One and a half hours per week)

- Spelling books (returned weekly)
- Reading daily
- Maths work
- Literacy work

Years 5 and 6 (One and a half hours per week)

- Spelling books (returned weekly)
- Reading daily
- Maths work
- Literacy work

Children in year 6 may be given more if it is felt it will support their learning as they approach the testing week.

This is in line with DFE for KS1 and KS2 guidelines.

There will be a maximum of two Maths and two English per week.

The Role of Parents

Parents need to discuss with their children the following questions:

- When is it a good time to do any homework?
- Where is the best place for homework to be done?
- What helps concentration?
- How long should my homework take me?
- Should I ask for help with my homework, even when it is finishing work started in class?
- Who should I ask for help and how much help should I expect?

If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If they wish to make a formal complaint about the school homework policy or the way it is implemented; parents should put their complaint in writing as stated in the Complaints Procedure Policy.

Pupils with special educational needs

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. If a child has special needs, we endeavor to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

Monitoring and Review

It is the responsibility of the governing body to agree and then monitor the school homework policy. The governing body may, at any time, request from the head teacher a report on the way homework is organised in the school.

Policy – Nov 17