



HARTWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

A Church of England Academy

Homework Policy

Hartwell Primary is a Voluntary Controlled academy and, recognising its historic foundation, works to preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England.

This includes the active promotion of British values and the respecting of those of other faiths or none.

Date agreed: Spring 2018

Review date: Spring 2021

INTRODUCTION

This policy formally sets out what is most current practice at this school. It is written with due regard to the DfES document Homework: Guidelines for Primary and Secondary Schools and clarifies the homework aspect of the Home-School Agreement. Homework is, of course, voluntary but it is increasingly recognised that pupils are more successful when parents strongly support their children's work and involve themselves in their learning. Homework is defined as any work or activity which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time either on their own or with parents/carers. Homework should not prevent pupils from participating in activities after school such as sports, music and clubs of any kind.

Purpose

The aim of our homework policy is to promote learning beyond the school day as an essential part of good education. We believe that homework not only reinforces classroom learning, it also helps children and young people to develop skills and attitudes that they need for successful lifelong learning. It should support the development of independent learning skills, including the habits of enquiry and investigation, and it should help to foster the role of parents and carers as co-educators of their children. We will make every effort to combat disadvantage, for example by considering the need for after-school study support via a weekly Homework club where invited children have access to school resources and staff.

Roles and responsibilities of Headteacher, other staff, governors

The **Headteacher** will ensure that homework is:

- An integral part of the curriculum and is planned and prepared alongside all other programmes of learning
- Appropriate to the age, ability and circumstances of the pupils, taking into account special educational needs
- coordinated in order to be manageable for children on a daily basis
- informed by DfE guidance about time commitments.

Teachers will ensure that:

- Pupils and parents are given a homework letter at the start of each new topic that outlines: the frequency of homework and what days it will be set and handed in
- Homework is always marked
- Tasks are differentiated and well structured
- Children, parents and carers are provided with an explanation of the key learning that they are trying to achieve from the task.
- It is clear to pupils how their homework consolidates and extends the work they are doing in school

Pupils will ensure that:

- They hand in homework on time
- They complete homework tasks to the same standard that they would complete class work
- They use a black pen or pencil to complete tasks

Parents will ensure that:

- provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which their child can do his or her homework
- make it clear to their child that they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning
- encourage their child to produce the highest standard of work that he or she is capable of and give praise when homework has been complete

Homework progression across school:

The following table illustrates the time allocation which takes account of government guidelines. Clearly, less is expected of children in the Foundation Stage than of those in Years 1 and 2. At Key Stage 2, the demands gradually increase so that by Years 5 and 6, children are spending longer periods on tasks

Homework Progression 2017-18

	Reading	Spelling	Writing	Maths	Other
Year R	Reading 4 times a week minimum and keywords/sounds 5mins every day	Once all tricky words learnt children sent mini task of learning how to write them every week			Topic diary of sunflower in Spring Term
Year 1	Key words/sounds 5mins every day Read 4 times a week (at least)	After Christmas 6 -10 per week	1 piece of writing (10 mins)	OR 1 Maths task (10 mins)	Topic occasionally
Year 2	4 times a week (at least) Key words/sounds if applicable	Weekly 10 per week	Literacy task (15 mins)	OR 1 Maths task (15 mins)	Topic occasionally
Year 3	3 times a week (at least)	15 per week	Literacy task (20 mins a week)	OR 20 minute activity a week	Tables test each week
Year 4	3 times a week (at least)	15 - 20 a week	Literacy task (30 mins a week)	OR 30 minute activity a week	Tables test each week
Year 5	3 times a week (at least)	20 a week	Literacy task (30 mins a week)	AND 30 minute activity a week	Tables for those who need it
Year 6	3 times a week (at least)	20 - 25 a week	Literacy task (30 mins a week)	AND 30 minute activity a week	Science homework

Recording Homework

- A majority of homework tasks will be sent home in the child's homework books
- Reading homework is recorded both at school and home in the home-school reading diaries and are checked by staff every Monday morning to ensure that a minimum of 4 reads have taken place over the previous week.
- All homework tasks are to be completed in black pen or pencil
- If there is a legitimate reason for homework not being completed, then a note should be sent to the class teacher explaining why.
- Failure to complete homework tasks will result in parents being invited into school to discuss how this can be rectified.
- Failure to complete homework tasks may result in a loss of free time.

Holiday Homework

- During school holidays points homework may be sent home which enables children and parents to select from a bank of activities and accumulate points based on these tasks. This enables homework to fit around family holiday activities.
- Extra work will not be sent home where a child has been taken out during term time for a family holiday.
- Extra work will only be sent home when a child is off school for long term sickness which is categorised as two weeks.