

SHANKLEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Homework Policy

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| **Policy Control Details** | | | |
| Date policy approved: | September 2016 | | |
| Prepared by: | Helen Brown | Signature | Date |
| Approved for issue by: | Gareth Pearson | Signature | Date |
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| Responsibility for review: | Curriculum Committee | | |

**Shanklea Primary School Homework Policy**

**Rationale**

Parents and teachers of primary school pupils hold very different views on homework for young children. We have taken into account these views and wishes through this policy to outline the consensus of opinion and to give you some guidelines and expectations about homework at this school.

## Aims of our homework policy

* To develop an effective partnership between the school and parents or carers
* To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in Literacy and Numeracy
* To extend school learning, of all kinds, into the home.
* To encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own, and preparing them for the requirements of secondary school.

## Requirements

The precise amount of time spent on homework is much less important than the quality of tasks undertaken at home. The government recommends daily reading at home and the school believes that reading with your children, by either listening to them or sharing books, is the most important aspect of homework for Primary School pupils.

Any additional homework given by this school will vary according to the age of the child and the nature of topics being studied at the time. It is expected, that as they move through the school towards transfer to secondary school, they will develop time management skills enabling them to complete the homework tasks set each week. Class teachers will monitor if homework is not completed and will let you know if there is a persistent problem. As the children move through Primary School the amount of homework will increase.

## Types of homework

**Reception**

Above everything else reading is the most important aspect. To support reading the children will be given sounds and words to learn which follows the Read Write Ink scheme which is used in school. Ongoing story sacks and Maths activity packs will also be sent home throughout the year. To support Numeracy they will be expected to practise counting and numbers at home using their number packets. In the spring term children will receive a short Literacy or Numeracy task to be completed in their homework book. In the summer term some children will take part in Magical Writers or Magical Maths which will involve a short task each night. Children will also receive weekly spellings in the summer term to help them to learn key words.

**Homework in Years 1 and 2**

Reading still remains an important area as the children progress through Key Stage 1 and as well as reading books from the school reading scheme children are encouraged to read for pleasure and to share books at home. Children will be given a Literacy and Numeracy task to complete each week in their homework books as well as spellings and number facts to learn which they will be tested on each week.

Alien word books will be introduced in the spring term to support children in Year 1 with preparation for the phonics screening test.

## Key Stage Two

## Reading still remains an important area as the children progress through Key Stage Two where children will continue to read the school reading scheme alongside reading ‘real books’ through Acceleread. Quizzes on Acceleread will be completed online in school after the children have read books at home. Parents and children are encouraged to share books together for pleasure. The amount and frequency of homework will increase as the children move through the Key Stage. This should help the children develop the independent learning skills they will need as they transfer to secondary school.

Each week the children will have a Literacy and Numeracy task to complete. The children will always be given sufficient time to complete homework assignments and it will not normally be set for the next day. Other homework tasks may be set throughout the year on other subject areas. The idea is to provide a variety of interesting tasks that encourage the children to develop a range of independent learning skills.

**Homework in Years 3 and 4**

* Daily reading
* Weekly Maths and Literacy task
* Weekly number facts to learn that will be tested at school
* Weekly spellings to learn that will be tested at school.

**Homework in Years 5 and 6**

* Regular reading
* Weekly Maths task
* Weekly English Task
* Spellings to learn that will be tested in school
* Additional tasks for some children to support gaps in their learning
* Other homework tasks that are felt to be suitable.
* Year 6 Easter homework – SATs practice

## Support from school

Each term an outline of the planned work for your children will be published on the website. The teachers will indicate how you may support your children in this work. Children are given clear instructions for a task to do at home. As the children progress in to Year 5 they will be given a diary to record homework. This will be checked by staff each week and should be signed by a parent/carer weekly.

## Additional support

Occasionally children struggle with some aspect of their learning. If this is the case you may be given some additional support from school about ways in which we can tackle the difficulty together. This may include for a short while additional homework. Many of the children receive group support for additional Literacy and Numeracy. If your child is on this programme they may bring home additional worksheets or tasks to complete. If reading at home becomes difficult talk to the teacher about it and we will look for a solution together.

In addition the older children will have access to the computer suite during the lunch period. This time can be used to carry out online homework if they are unable to do it at home. Study club is also available to all Year 6 children once a week after school.

## Holiday homework

If in special circumstances a holiday is authorised during term time the school will not be able to provide the work that they will miss whilst away. New work must be introduced by the teacher and is interactive and therefore cannot be given to take home.

**Keeping in touch**

Every child has a reading comment book; this may also be used for passing on information about homework between home and school, especially for parents who do not have daily contact with school. The older children are provided with a diary that you can use to comment on homework and to communicate with school. The children will be provided with books for the homework tasks they are set. Number Facts and Spelling books will be coming home regularly and you will be able to follow your child’s progress.

**Shanklea Primary School – Homework information**

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| **Class** | **Reading** | **English** | **Maths** |
| **Nursery** | Story to share each week. |  |  |
| **Reception** | Reading every night. Books changed twice per week.  Story sack used on a regular basis. | Action words and sounds to learn each week. | Maths games used on a regular basis. |
| **Year 1** | Reading every night. Books changed twice per week. | Weekly spellings to learn.  Weekly new words in word books.  Literacy task set Friday for the following Wednesday. | Numeracy task set Friday for the following Wednesday. |
| **Year 2** | Reading every night. Books changed Monday, Wednesday and Friday. | Spelling test / rule – Every Tuesday.  Literacy task set Friday for the following Wednesday. | Number facts to learn each week for Friday test.  Numeracy task set Friday for the following Wednesday. |
| **Year 3** | Reading every night. Books changed Monday, Tuesday and Friday. | 20 minute task set on Friday for following Wednesday.  Spellings set on Friday for test the following Thursday. | 20 Minute task set Friday for following Wednesday.  Number facts to learn each week for test the following Monday. |
| **Year 4** | Reading every night. Books changed Monday and Friday. | 20 minute task set on Wednesday for the following Tuesday.  Spellings set on Monday for test the following week. | 20 Minute task set Friday for the following Wednesday.  Number facts to learn each week for test on Friday. |
| **Year 5** | Reading – Minimum of twice per week. | Spelling task set each fortnight.  20 minute English task set on Thursday for the following Tuesday. | 20 minute Maths task set on Thursday for the following Tuesday. |
| **Year 6** | Reading – Minimum of twice per week. | Spelling task set each fortnight.  20 minute English skills task set Thursday for the next Tuesday. | 20 minute Maths task set on Thursday for the following Tuesday. |

Homework tasks from other subject areas will be set as and when required.