

WHITCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

1. Introduction

1.1 Homework is considered to be a valuable element of the teaching and learning process and children are encouraged to work at home on a regular basis. However, it must be remembered that children have worked very hard at their lessons and many of them, particularly the younger ones, will be tired at the end of the school day. Expecting them to tackle large amounts of homework in the evening would not be appropriate.

2. Definitions

2.1 Homework is work which is set to be completed outside the normal working day and timetabled curriculum. Homework is usually related directly to work being studied in school. It is a period of independent study which might, where appropriate, involve parental support or input.

3. General Principles

3.1 The amount and type of homework set will vary according to the age of the child.

3.2 Homework will be:

- Manageable within a reasonable timeframe;
- Challenging and purposeful;
- Recognised and valued by teachers and parents;
- Recognised as being important by the pupil;
- Homework will not be used as a punishment. However, if parents agree, pupils may be set work to complete at home if they have wasted time in class.

4. Types of Homework

	Literacy	Maths	Reading	Other
Given out	Wednesday	Thursday	We ask that all children are engaged in some type of reading at least 4 times a week and this is recorded by an adult in their reading record	There may be other optional/season tasks set throughout the year.
Returned	Monday	Tuesday		

4.1 Homework returned and completed in a satisfactory manner receives a class point. Children who do not return homework on time without explanation from a parent will miss 5 minutes of their golden time per subject.

4.2 There are always a range of activities on class pages on the learning platform for those children who wish to do further tasks at home. This may be brought in and shared with teacher and the class, but will not be marked in a detailed way.

4.3 In Year 6 greater amounts of homework are often given to help children prepare for secondary school.

5. Taking Responsibility

5.1 Being responsible for looking after books and materials which are taken home, and also for ensuring the return of articles to school, is an important part of the homework process.

6. Parental Support

6.1 It is hoped that parents will give their active support to the Homework Policy. Parents are welcome to discuss homework issues informally, or at parents' evenings.

6.2 Parents can help their children by:

- Listening to them read or by reading to them;
- Asking them if they have other homework to do;
- Encouraging them to work in a comfortable and quiet area of the house;
- Asking to look at the finished work and by being positive in their praise;
- Acknowledging the effort that their children have made by initialling a reading record, a tables/spelling book or other piece of work.

6.3 The school does not expect children to work for unreasonable amounts of time to complete homework tasks. If a child is finding a task difficult and has tried their best parents should indicate this on the work.

6.4 If a parent or child is unsure of the homework task they should return to teacher for clarification as soon as possible.

7. Government guidelines for homework

7.1 The emphasis is on how homework helps your child to learn, rather than on whether it takes a certain amount of time. For example, some children will work quicker than others and get more done in less time. The rough guidelines for primary school children are:

- Years 1 and 2: one hour per week
- Years 3 and 4: 1.5 hours per week
- Years 5 and 6: 30 minutes per day

Status of this Policy: APPROVED

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Lead contributions from:

Staff: Dawn Chesters

Governors: Valerie Faguet-Steen and Curriculum Committee