



Fremington Community  
Primary & Nursery School

## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

### **Policy Information**

Statutory/Non-Statutory: Non-Statutory  
Approved/Reviewed by: Teaching & Learning Committee  
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# HOMWORK POLICY

## 1. Introduction

**1.1** Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning. For example, a parent who spends time reading a story to their child before bedtime is helping with homework.

## 2. Rationale for homework

**2.1** Homework is a very important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. The government made clear its commitment to homework in the 1997 White Paper, 'Excellence in schools', where homework was seen as 'an essential part of good education'. We recognise that the time and resources available limit the educational experience that any school by itself can provide; children benefit greatly therefore from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. Indeed we see homework as an important way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents. One of the aims of our school is for children to develop as independent learners. We believe that homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.

**2.2** 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. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations that play an important part in the lives of many children. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe they develop their skills, interests and talents to the full only when parents encourage them to make maximum use of the experiences and opportunities that are available outside of school.

## 3 Aims and Objectives

**3.1** The aims and objectives of homework are:

- To enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
- To promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- To enable all aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth;
- To provide educational experiences not possible in school;
- To consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and to allow children to practise skills taught in lessons;
- To help children develop good work habits for the future.

#### 4 Types of homework:

Foundation Stage	<p>We give the children early reading books to read at home with their parents. We support parents in helping their children learn to read through workshops on phonics and 'help-sheets'. Children also bring home phonics ideas to practise to embed phonics teaching in class.</p> <p>Each class also has a teddy that children take in turns to bring home and write about their adventures with bear.</p> <p>All children have a reading folder and reading record.</p>
Key Stage One (Year 1 and 2)	<p>Children have reading books which are at a suitable level. In addition to this children have weekly spellings linked to their phonics to learn, and mental maths facts to practise. Spelling and number facts are tested regularly.</p> <p>Occasionally we ask children to complete some project work as part of a topic.</p> <p>All children have a reading folder and reading record.</p>
Lower Key stage 2 (Year 3 and 4)	<p>Children are expected to continue reading at least three times a week to an adult. Children also have spellings and/ or times tables homework which are tested regularly.</p> <p>Alongside this children may have extra Maths or topic based homework, according to the class curriculum.</p> <p>Children have a special homework book where homework is completed alongside a reading record.</p>
Upper Key Stage 2 (Year 5 and 6)	<p>Children have weekly English Grammar homework alongside weekly Maths homework. They also have weekly spellings that are tested in class.</p> <p>Occasionally they may have extra topic or project based homework set by the class teacher.</p> <p>In preparation for secondary school, all homework is recorded in a home-school diary.</p>
All Children	<p>Every child is able to bring home a book from the school Library.</p> <p>We expect all children to read regularly at home, with those on a reading scheme encouraged to read with an adult at least three times a week.</p> <p>After feedback from parents we produced homework grids, sent home at the beginning of each half term with core and optional activities.</p>

Examples of Home Learning Grids:



## Year One Home Learning: Explorers!

We would like the children's learning to be shared with you at home as much as possible; therefore we have created a home learning chart with ideas of activities linked with our topic. This half term we are learning about the great explorer 'Christopher Columbus'.

<p><b>Reading: Every Night</b> Read your book for 10 minutes every night and colour a jelly bean in your jar.</p>  <p>Please make sure all reading is recorded in your child's reading record. This we be checked daily in school.</p>	<p><b>Spelling: 3 – 4 times a week</b> Please practise your five spelling words ready for Wednesday's spelling test.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look-cover-say-write-check your spelling words</li> <li>• Look up the meaning of words you are unsure of</li> <li>• Write a sentence using your words</li> <li>• Ask a grown up to test you</li> </ul>	<p><b>Number Fun: 1-2 times a week</b> Practise your + and – number facts to 20 on this interactive website</p> <p><a href="http://www.topmarks.co.uk/number-facts/number-fact-families">www.topmarks.co.uk/number-facts/number-fact-families</a></p> 
<p>Please choose at least one of these topic based activities to do at home. You have the whole half term to complete these activities. We will be celebrating all home learning in the last week of term.</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Let's get crafty!</b></p> <p>Design a boat for an explorer that will float</p> 	<p>Imagine you are an explorer going on an exciting adventure.</p> <p>Write about your exciting a adventure, where did you go, what did you see?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Fact Finding</b></p> <p>What can you find out about great explorers?</p> <p>You could visit the library, look in a book or go online to find out more.</p>

Term : Easter Term 2			UKS2 Homework Grid			★ = Compulsory Every Week		
SCHOOL FOCUS (These areas are the chosen foci for this half term and should be worked on each week)								
Spellings ★			Times Tables ★			Reading at Home (especially different genres) ★		
FAMILY FOCUS (Select as many as you like)								
Run Around In The Rain <input type="checkbox"/>			Make A Mud Pie <input type="checkbox"/>			Go On A Really Long Bike Ride <input type="checkbox"/>		
Star Gazing <input type="checkbox"/>			Go On A Nature Walk At Night <input type="checkbox"/>			Go Bird Watching <input type="checkbox"/>		
TOPIC FOCUS (Select <u>one</u> from below to get creative with, and bring it along and exhibit it in the last week of term)								
Make a model of the Solar System <input type="checkbox"/>			Make a pump rocket <input type="checkbox"/>			Make a model of a known planet <input type="checkbox"/>		
Make a model of the ISS or Luna Rover <input type="checkbox"/>			Create your own alien <input type="checkbox"/>			Create your own robot <input type="checkbox"/>		
Design and make a booklet on space <input type="checkbox"/>			Design and make a space-themed cake <input type="checkbox"/>			Make a chocolate planet <input type="checkbox"/>		
Make a model rocket from Lego <input type="checkbox"/>			Produce a video about space <input type="checkbox"/>			Design and make a mini planetarium <input type="checkbox"/>		
Design, name and make your own planet <input type="checkbox"/>			Make a space collage from natural things <input type="checkbox"/>			Make a model of a Clanger <input type="checkbox"/>		
Parent Signature.....			Pupil Signature .....			Teacher Signature .....		

## Year 3 and 4 **HOMWORK ACTIVITIES** SPRING TERM February 20<sup>th</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup> 2017

Weekly Homework Tasks (compulsory tasks)	Half term Topic Project	Optional Homework Tasks <i>Can you complete 3 of these?</i>
<b>Reading</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School scheme book</li> <li>Library book</li> <li>Book from home</li> <li>Newspaper/magazine</li> </ul> <i>At least 3 times per week or more...</i>	<b>Our Blue Planet</b> Rivers, Oceans, Water Cycle ... Research and produce a project linked to this work in class... You could make a poster, model, Powerpoint presentation or similar, booklet, leaflet, art work etc. Themes could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oceans of the world</li> <li>Famous Rivers</li> <li>Tidal waves</li> <li>Floods</li> <li>Sea Life</li> <li>How the Water Cycle works</li> </ul> <i>...or your own idea!</i> <b>Projects to be completed and ready to bring into school for the week beginning Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017</b> <b>Be creative and have fun doing it!</b>	Take a walk or visit to the beach or a river... <input type="checkbox"/> Visit a museum, gallery or library <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fremington Quay museum</li> <li>Burton Art gallery in Bideford</li> <li>Barnstaple Museum</li> <li>RAM Museum Exeter</li> </ul> <i>or any other of these amazing places...</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Play a game with an adult <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A board game</li> <li>Card game</li> <li>Word or number game</li> <li>Outdoor game or sport</li> </ul> NOT a Video game or screen-based game please! <input type="checkbox"/> Music and Art <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Play or practice an instrument</li> <li>Listen to music or watch a musical</li> <li>Sing songs</li> <li>Draw or paint a picture</li> </ul> <input type="checkbox"/> Life Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Help prepare or cook a meal or follow a recipe</li> <li>Learn to tie your laces</li> <li>Learn to tell the time on a watch</li> <li>Go shopping, and use correct money or check the change</li> <li>Do a Fire Safety plan and check smoke alarms in your home</li> <li>Do some washing up or use the Hoover!</li> </ul> <input type="checkbox"/>

## 5 Amount of Homework

**5.1** We increase the amount of homework that we give the children as they move through the school. We have followed the DFE homework guidelines, see below. It is however important to note that we do not expect children to struggle on with homework that they are finding too difficult - we would encourage parents to contact the teacher to discuss any issues with the tasks set.

<b>Recommended time allocation for daily home activities</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Other home activities</b>
Reception year	10 minutes	10 minutes
Years 1 and 2	20 minutes	10 minutes
Years 3 and 4	20 minutes	20 minutes
Years 5 and 6	20 minutes	30 minutes

## **6 Pupils with special educational needs**

**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. If a child has special needs, we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way. When setting homework to pupils who are named on the register of special needs, we refer to the Individual Education Plans (IEPs) where appropriate.

## **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 progress. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as they feel necessary and provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and by discussing the work that their child is doing. In school we hold annual phonics, reading and maths workshops to enable parents to support children effectively with home learning.

**7.2** If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If there are of a more general nature, they should contact the block leader or Head Teacher. Finally, if they wish to make a complaint about the school homework policy or the way it is implemented, parents should contact the school, and if not resolved, the governing body.

## **8 Monitoring and review**

**8.1** It is the responsibility of our governing body to agree and then monitor the school homework policy. This is done by the committee of the Governing Body that deals with curriculum issues.

