



Covingham Park Primary School Homework Policy

Our vision is to provide every child with an outstanding start to their education which will equip them with necessary skills to meet future changes and challenges.

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Introduction

Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day, which 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.

Rationale for homework

Homework is an important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. Children benefit greatly from the mutual support of parents/carers 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/carers. One of the aims is for children to develop as independent learners; we believe that homework is one of the ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning by enabling them to follow their own lines of enquiry.

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 which 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. It for this reason that we encourage weekly core work at home focusing on basic skills with additional, open ended, research style homework to develop independent learning.

Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- to enhance work in school and enable children to make progress in their academic and social development;
- to help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
- to promote the use of literacy, numeracy and ICT skills across the curriculum;
- 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 consolidate, extend and reinforce learning done in school and to allow children to practice and apply skills taught in lessons;
- to help children develop good work habits for the future;
- to involve parents in children's learning.

Types of Homework

We set a variety of homework activities. We would like children to read at home on a daily basis as well as learning and applying weekly spelling and times tables or counting. Sometimes we ask children to talk about, or research a topic at home prior to studying it in school or find and collect things that we then use in science or DT lessons. We will also set longer, project style pieces of work which will be related to work in school and encourage investigative, independent learning. When we ask children to study a topic or to research a particular subject, we encourage them to use the school, local library and internet.

If a pupil has difficulty understanding their homework they should tell their class teacher or teaching assistant, who will help. This help should be requested prior to the hand-in day. For children who persistently forget to complete homework, parents will be contacted by the class

teacher- either by telephone or by the link book to discuss ways that parents and school can work together to support the child with their homework.

Expectations of Homework

Please see the attached expectations for each year group.

Children are provided with homework books in which they should complete their homework and return it to be checked. Children should complete their homework to the same standard that is expected in their school books. Children will not be penalised for not doing their homework, however they may earn rewards if they do, e.g, dojos, certificates, extra-play etc.

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 endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

The Role of Parents

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. 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.

If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. Finally, if they wish to make a complaint about the school homework policy or the way it is implemented, parents should initially contact the Key Stage leader. If they are not happy with the response they receive their concern should be raised in writing with the Chair of the Governing Body via the School office.

Monitoring and review

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

Homework Expectations

Year Group	English	Maths	Topic
FS	Phase 2 phonemes sent home for children to play games/make words with		
	Daily reading		
	Activities sent out weekly on Tapestry		
Year 1	Weekly phonics activity	Weekly maths activity	
	Daily reading:		
	Weekly English homework linked to topic		
Year 2	Weekly English activity	Weekly maths activity or times table/ counting activity following up on learning in the week	Topic homework: List of ideas sent home at the beginning of term.
	Daily reading		
Year 3	Weekly spelling investigation	Weekly maths activity or times table/ counting activity	Topic homework: List of ideas sent home at the beginning of term.
	Daily reading		
Year 4	Weekly English homework	Weekly maths activity or times table/ counting activity	Topic homework: List of ideas sent home at the beginning of term.
	Daily reading		
Year 5	Weekly spelling investigation	Weekly maths activity following up on learning in the week	Topic homework: List of ideas sent home at the beginning of term.
	Daily reading		
Year 6	Weekly grammar / spelling or English homework	Weekly maths activity following up on learning in the week	Extended topic homework every term
	Daily reading		