

Tanfield Lea Community Primary School

Homework Policy



Opening Doors, Enriching Lives

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Homework Policy

Introduction

The school policy for homework was developed and agreed by the whole staff.

Aims

Through this policy we aim to:

- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do.
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- To use homework as a tool to help continue to raise standards of attainment.
- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment.
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning.
- Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning.
- To practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in Numeracy and Literacy.
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
- To prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school.

The Nature of Homework

It should be noted that homework can be set in many different forms with many different expectations and outcomes. It is important to remember that when expecting and setting homework there are a number of points to consider:-

- The nature and type of homework changes throughout a pupils school career.
- Amount and frequency of homework should increase as a pupil gets older.
- Homework should not cause undue stress on the pupil, family or the teacher.
- It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.
- Homework should be set regularly from Reception to Year 6.

Recommended Time Allocation

Homework should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the pupil's family. If parents have any concerns they should not hesitate to contact the school. Normally, more than one day will be allowed for the completion of a homework task, except where daily practice is to be encouraged e.g. reading, spelling and times tables.

Homework Tasks

Listed below are a number of example tasks and activities that might be given as homework. This is by no means an exhaustive list and is open to constant change, although many of these tasks and activities will be used on a regular basis. Homework activities will change to meet the needs of the pupils involved and activities that might be occurring in class. All homework tasks and activities will have a clear purpose and assist pupils in the process of their academic development.

Reception

Key words

Letters and Sounds

Numeracy based activities

Reading

Key Stage 1

Reading

Lucky numbers (Numeracy)

Writing activities

Key Stage 2

Numeracy based activities

Literacy based activities

Spellings

Times Tables

Role of the Class Teacher

- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to parents when necessary and give guidance of how they might assist their child. This may be done by a note with the work, at a pre-school parents meeting or at an open evening if possible.
- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- To ensure that homework is set consistently across classes.

- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- To mark homework when necessary and give feedback to pupils.

Role of the Head teacher and Governing Body

- To check compliance of the Policy.
- To meet and talk with parents when appropriate.
- To discuss with staff how far the policy is being successfully implemented.
- Inform new parents to the school so that they are aware of our homework policy.

Role of Parents/Carers

- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the homework.
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework.
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities.
- To make it clear that they value homework and they support the school by explaining how it can help learning.

At Tanfield Lea Community Primary School we are very keen for parents to support and help their children with homework. We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved as long as they do not take over too much. However, there are times when we will want to see what children can do on their own. It is particularly important, as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be, they should discuss it with their child's teacher.

General

Wherever possible staff should try to mark any homework that is returned by pupils. This will help to give the whole process of setting and completing homework a higher profile and status. It will also send out the message that homework is an important and valued aspect of school life.

Marking homework is a way of keeping track of who has completed their homework, and giving them feedback on how well they have met the objectives of the work. Marking may be done in a variety of forms, some of which will not be written. Feedback may be given to individual pupils, or to groups of pupils.

Parents/Carers who have queries about homework should not hesitate to make an appointment to see their child's class teacher