

HOMEWORK POLICY (Updated January 2015)

Aims

- To provide a link between home and school by involving parents in understanding what the child has to learn.
- To give guidance to parents in how they can help their child.
- To motivate pupils by encouraging independence and success in achievable tasks.
- To reward pupils through colour points, certificates for work achieved.
- Through homework to reinforce the basic skills of reading, spelling and mental maths.
- To provide the opportunity for some extended tasks where pupils can show initiative.
- In Year 6 to provide a bridge between the expectations of primary and high school.

General

Homework should be:-

- ✓ Achievable
- ✓ Rewardable
- ✓ Manageable

1. Pupils should be able to complete it themselves. It should reinforce class work e.g. in maths, sums help the child to practise a skill. It should not be random tasks or new work.
2. Homework must be set every week as the timetable indicates.
3. Key Stage 1 have a reading record.
Key Stage 2 have a reading record and a homework diary.
4. Homework on any night should be between 20 and 30 minutes maximum.
5. Colour points should be given for satisfactory and good completion of homework.

Key Stage 1 and Reception

1. Pupils have a home/school reading diary and read for a period of 10 - 20 minutes three times a week. This is signed each time by the parent and by the Teacher at the end of the week.
2. Phonic/spelling books and phonic words. (Pupils in Year 1 have a national test in phonics. Pupils will also have key words to learn and spell).

N.B. This is a Teacher's responsibility and a Classroom Assistant should not carry out the monitoring.

Support Assistants can sign the diary and make a comment if they listen to a child read.

3. Mental mathematics and number bonds.

Key Stage 2

Homework consists of:

- Written maths homework which consolidates work completed in class. This should be collated in a folder or stapled into a maths book.
- Reading - 3 times a week for a period of 10 - 20 minutes. Note that as pupils move into Key stage 2 good reading can take longer.
- Mental maths.
- Spellings - As English year group/or book review (year 4 - 6).

In years 5 and 6: Preparatory work of 20 minutes for the day ahead in English.

Year 6 have one extra piece which can vary from week to week but is on a specified night e.g. book review.

The exact days of all the homework is given to parents on a homework timetable at the start of each year.

2. Organisation of the homework diary:

All pupils have a homework diary. The class teacher needs to spend time teaching the organisational skills of filling in the date at the top of each week on Monday and of filling in the diary.

- Homework should be written on the board for pupils to copy e.g. 5 missing number maths sums. It should be written in the diary by the Teacher or Support Assistant for those with special needs.
- Reading homework should also be written into the diary.
- Homework must be set as explained on the timetable.
- Parents and Teachers sign the diary at the end of each week.
- Rewards - colour points are written in the diary.

N.B. The homework diary should not become a star chart with comments on behaviour. It does however provide a valuable link between home and school and where there are problems or successes these can be noted.

Support for homework is part of Beecroft's home-school agreement. Where there are problems this should be indicated to the parents and should be discussed with the Headteacher.

We value parental help and support for the child. If parents are having problems with any aspect of their child's homework then we welcome appointments to discuss this.