



WHITMINSTER ENDOWED C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
A FAMILY, A FOUNDATION, A FUTURE

Whitminster Endowed Cof E Primary School

Homework Policy

Agreed by Governors:
Curriculum committee: Autumn Term 23
Review Date: Autumn Term 25



Our Ethos:

'Our school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils. Each child is recognised as an individual and encouraged to develop his or her varying talents, interests and potential. We aim to provide an ethos in which pupils can learn and be happy, providing them with a firm and lasting foundation of knowledge and values to serve them as they grow up and take their place in society.'



Introduction

At Whitminster we believe that all children should have some work to do at home to introduce, consolidate or to compliment work done in the classroom. In this way parents and carers can be kept informed of the work and standard their child is achieving in school. Homework also gives parents an opportunity to discuss with their child the work they are doing at school. Homework is given according to age, the older children are the more homework they are given.

The principles of homework.

1. The policy involves all stakeholders in a partnership in order to be more effective.
2. Homework tasks are integrated within planned everyday school work.
3. Tasks are matched to pupil needs and on the basis of their prior attainment, providing challenges for all.
4. It compliments not just completes classroom learning.
5. Feedback to pupils tells them how well they have done and what they could do to improve.
6. We believe that it helps pupils to develop a good attitude to learning and develop their ability to work independently. We give positive reinforcement and reward to encourage children to complete it.

Homework

Reception

Pupils are expected to practice their twinkl phonics homework sheet every day. They are also given reading books. Parents are asked to sign/ initial and comment in their reading diaries. Parents are informed termly of expectations in phonics and reading. Term 1/2/3 phonic homework sheets are given daily and pupils are expected to practice this every day. Reading books will also be given out for continuation of reading skills development. Terms 4/5/6 reading will be monitored three times per week to ensure reading is heard at home. Tricky words are sent home to practice reading and writing. Maths is sent home weekly to support learning in class.

Year 1/2 - KS1

Literacy - Reading everyday parents are asked to sign/ initial and comment in their reading diaries.

Phonics/Spelling weekly on purple mash

Termly spelling list

Maths- Weekly maths homework on purple mash

Years 3/4 – Lower KS2

Literacy - Reading every day. Parents are asked to sign/ initial and comment in their reading diaries. These will be checked weekly. Children have a weekly literacy task which can be linked to their topic and/or literacy objective as appropriate.

Use of Twinkl spellings in line with the spellings being taught in class

Maths- Weekly maths linked to the learning in class

Use of Purple mash timetables

Years 5/6 – Upper KS2

Reading. Children are beginning to keep account of their own reading diaries, unless they need support in which case parents are expected to continue to read with their child.

Reading diaries are checked weekly and signed by parents. These will be checked in school by a member of staff. Children are expected to have read at least 25 times in a small term.

Literacy- weekly homework

Maths- Differentiated tasks once a week associated with the key objectives of the class that have been taught that week.

Many children are also part of other groups ie intervention groups, more-able etc and the adult delivering the teaching may also set homework as part of the child's extended learning. All parents and children will be informed if this is the case.

Although we recognise that homework is not statutory we work very hard to encourage our pupils by positive reinforcement of the benefits of completing homework. We ask parents and carers to support us in this area of our work and if they have any problems or issues they would like to discuss to see the class teacher in the first instance.

No child will be excluded from doing their homework and every effort is made to ensure that work set is manageable and that no specialist equipment is needed.

Where pupils are finding it hard to complete homework the school tries to help provide time for this activity.

All homework expectations will be made clear on termly class information letters as well as on the school's website.

This policy is reviewed bi-annually and is reported to parents annually through our Autumn term parent information evenings.

COVID APPENDIX – SEPTEMBER 2021

Current guidance states that 'Pupils and teachers can take books and other shared resources home, although unnecessary sharing should be avoided'.

We have therefore made some adjustments to our homework policy to limit the sharing of work between home and school. Where possible work will be sent home via e-mail and tasks set to be completed on-line. When work is sent home, this will be sorted by one

person and they will have clean hands so we are sure what we send home is safe. If work is returning to school, then it will be quarantined for 72 hours before the staff review the tasks. Reading books will be sent home and changed weekly to ensure they can also be quarantined. Purple Mash and other on-line resources will be used where possible to support learning at home.

CLASS 1

Parents are asked to choose homework challenges and then take photos and email them to the school using class1@whitminstercofe.gloucs.sch.uk This will then be shared with the class.

Reading - Due to Coronavirus, we need to change our routine to ensure all books are safe to send to home. Parents have been asked to return the books in a plastic folder in the book bags every Tuesday morning. They will be changed and sent home again every Friday.

Phonics - From Monday 20th September we will begin teaching phonics. Monday to Thursday a child will bring home a new homework sheet each day to complete on the focus sound of the day. Parents are encouraged to help their child to complete each sheet using a pencil.

They can send in a photos of the child with the work. A folder will be sent home in the book bag and should be kept at home. Parents are asked to add the sheets each day to the folder.

CLASS 2

Weekly maths linked to work in class, either an online activity (e.g. Purple Mash) or emailed worksheet.

Weekly phonics or spelling linked to work in class, either an online activity (e.g. Purple Mash) or emailed worksheet.

Daily reading at home. A school book to come home once a week and reading resources to be emailed out regularly. Staff, parents and children to comment using the online reading journal on Purple Mash.

Digraph sound cards to be read through regularly. Targeted common exception words to be practised for reading and spelling.

CLASS 3

A reading book will be sent home on a Friday in a plastic wallet, it then needs to be returned in the plastic wallet the following Friday where it will be left alone for 72 hours ready for another child to choose. If needed the child can keep the book for an extra week. Staff, parents and children to comment using the online reading journal on Purple Mash.

One week, paper tasks will be set and the following week tasks on Purple Mash. This will enable staff to quarantine work before marking it. When work is sent home, this will be sorted by one person and they will have clean hands so we are sure what we send home is safe. Please ensure it is completed in pencil unless they have a pen license where they need to use an ink based pen not a biro.

Each week, the children will be set a piece of maths and a piece of English (this could be topic related or comprehension)

CLASS 4

Work will be set some on purple mash (logins can be requested if your child misplaces them), or paper based. It will be set on a Tuesday. It will need to be completed and brought into school by the following Monday; where we will mark this together in class. Feedback will be given at this time and team points awarded for effort and completion of the work. The homework itself will be a comprehension exercise for reading, and some maths based around work we have covered in the previous few lessons.