



# Parwich Primary School

## Homework Policy

Review every two years

At Parwich Primary School, homework is seen as an important aspect of the learning process involving parents, teachers and children in a partnership aimed at raising standards of achievement and maximising educational opportunity.

### **Aims:**

- To aid each child's progress towards achieving his or her potential with the assistance, support and co-operation of parents/carers;
- By setting a little homework on a regular basis and increasing the quantity gradually from Reception to Year 6, the children should be adequately prepared for the demands and responsibility of KS3.

### **Objectives:**

- To provide opportunity for the child to practise what has been learnt in class, particularly the development of basic skills e.g. times tables, spellings etc.;
- To provide a purposeful supplement to class work;
- To provide a practical opportunity for parents to become involved in the academic development of their child;
- To provide a practical opportunity for the child to begin to take responsibility for organising their own workload.

### **Expectations:**

We value the support from parents / carers and we believe that this policy will be successful, if there is a strong partnership between home and school which is reflected in the Home-School Agreement. We recognise that all children need leisure time and believe that our policy allows for a balance, so children can extend and consolidate their learning with parental support, while still allowing for 'down time'.

### **How the Headteacher at Parwich Primary School will support this policy:**

- Promote the policy to staff, parents and pupils;
- Monitor and evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the policy.

### **How staff at Parwich Primary School will support this policy:**

- Provide regular homework tasks and activities to consolidate and extend learning in class;
- Ensure that the children have a clear understanding of the tasks involved and a common understanding of the high expectations held of them individually, according to their ability;
- Provide adequate and appropriate feedback to pupils through praise and encouragement, marking or testing (as appropriate);
- Communicate with parents about homework through Parent Consultation evenings, reports, letters home etc.

### **How parents will support this policy:**

- Provide somewhere peaceful for children to work without the distractions of television, other family members, or pets;
- Support the school in explaining to children that homework is valued and aids learning;
- Provide encouragement and support to children and praise them when homework is completed;
- Give due importance to non-written tasks such as reading and assisting in the learning of tables and weekly spellings;
- Sign and date homework to acknowledge that they have checked that it has been completed on time and to a suitable standard;
- Keep the staff informed of any changes in the child's circumstances, which may affect their learning.

### How pupils will support this policy:

- Tackle home tasks promptly and with a positive attitude;
- Take pride in presentation and content, acknowledging the high personal standard expected;
- Be organised so that necessary books and equipment are not left at school;
- Take responsibility for handing in the completed task on the agreed day.

## **Homework across the School**

The list below 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.

### **Whole School**

#### **Reading**

As I am sure you will appreciate, the partnership between home and school is very important. Reading every night and regularly completing homework tasks will aid your child's learning. We would ask that you sign in the reading diary to say when a book has been read, and record any comments that you might wish to make. It is also helpful if you can talk to your child about their reading book and ask questions to test their understanding. (What happened when...? Why do you think they did that? What would have happened if...?)

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Homework (in addition to reading). Our minimum expectations:</b>
<b>Reception</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Practise phonics sound cards.</li></ul>
<b>Year 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Practise phonics sound cards;</li><li>• Learn set spelling words.</li></ul>
<b>Year 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Learn set spelling words;</li><li>• As the year progresses, learn a 'target' table together with the related division facts.</li></ul>
<b>Years 3 &amp; 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Learn set spelling words;</li><li>• Learn a 'target' table together with the related division facts and revise previously learnt tables.</li></ul>
<b>Years 5 &amp; 6</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Learn set spelling words;</li><li>• Practise a 'target' table and revise previously learnt tables / Maths skill ready for a weekly test.</li></ul>

### **Juniors**

#### **Written Homework**

Occasionally, the children may be set additional pieces of homework, usually of a research nature and related to the current topic. Extra work at home is always encouraged and your child may wish to keep a 'journal' of stories and poems etc., which they can bring to school whenever they have something they would like us to see.

The school will inform parents at the start of each academic year, when homework is set and expected to be returned. Parents will be informed again, if changes are made.

## **Year 6**

To support the work undertaken in class, there may be an increase in homework in this year group; this also helps children prepare for the transfer to secondary school and the changes they can expect. During the spring and summer terms additional SAT's preparation work may be set to aid the children's learning as they prepare for the tests in May.

If an occasion arises when it is not possible for homework to be completed on time, it would be very helpful if parents could let us know so that time can be provided during break time in school.

## **Support Strategies**

We know that some children are unable to do homework at home for a variety of domestic reasons. In some cases we suggest that it would be better to do homework at lunchtime because we feel that the child will benefit from our help and support. These children are able to sit in a classroom at lunchtime and do their homework in school.

Children who have not completed their homework because they have forgotten will be expected to do it in school during their own time. Imposing sanctions for not doing homework is difficult and teachers will be sensitive about what happens as a consequence. Reminders will also be written in the child's Reading Records, Timetables or Spelling Books; this requires an acknowledgement from parents. In some cases when missed/forgotten homework is frequent and starts to cause a problem, the issue will need to be discussed with parents and a plan of action agreed.

If parents are struggling with any aspects of homework, then an appointment with the class teacher would be encouraged, in order for methods and strategies to be discussed.