



BLETCHINGLEY VILLAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Homework Policy

Philosophy

'A good well-managed homework programme helps children and young people to develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful lifelong learning. Homework also supports the development of independent learning skills and provides parents with an opportunity to take part in their children's education.'

(DfES Homework Guidance Document)

Aims

- to ensure a whole school consistent approach to homework
- to ensure that all those involved understand their role in achieving good outcomes for children
- to ensure that homework is effective in consolidating learning; developing independence; involving parents/carers in children's learning; promoting children's engagement with their learning; and providing opportunities and motivation for children to take their own learning further.

Principles

- Homework should achieve the above aims without becoming onerous, preventing children from pursuing their other out-of-school interests, or causing conflict within families.
- Homework should always have outcomes which are useful for the child.
- Homework should be a balance of practising core skills e.g. reading/spelling/times tables; consolidating learning done at school e.g. further practice of a new maths strategy; and opportunities for more creative, topic-related work e.g. model-making; research work.
- Homework should be differentiated so that it meets the learning needs of each child.
- Homework should be marked promptly and the children given constructive feedback in a way that can be shared with parents/carers.
- Homework should sometimes include longer term tasks which are completed over a number of weeks.

Practice

- Please see Appendix for details of homework

Roles and Responsibilities

Governors:

To be aware of and familiar with the school's homework policy.

Head Teacher:

To monitor the implementation of the policy;

To evaluate its effectiveness;

To review and update the policy as appropriate.

Class Teachers:

- To ensure that the homework policy is implemented in their class;
- To ensure that parents/carers are aware of the homework expectations for their class;
- To differentiate homework appropriately for all children;
- To set and mark homework as agreed;
- To give feed-back to pupils on their homework within a reasonable timescale (before another piece of homework is set in the same subject);
- To keep accurate records of homework, and to contact parents/carers in the case of difficulties;
- To refer appropriate children for Homework Club, after discussions with parents.

Pupils:

- To complete homework set and give it in on time;
- To complete homework to the best of their ability;
- To tell the teacher if they have any problems with their homework;
- To be organised and make sure homework diaries and reading journals are given in as required;
- To follow the same rules for presentation as they do in class when completing homework
- To accept that there may be consequences if homework is not completed.

Parents:

- To monitor children's homework and ensure that children complete it on time;
- To provide a suitable place in which children can do their homework;
- To help and support their children when necessary whilst encouraging them to be independent;
- To contact the school promptly if there are problems with the homework;
- To contact the school promptly if circumstances arise which make homework difficult for the child or the family;
- To support the school in setting appropriate consequences if homework is not done as set.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The policy will be monitored and evaluated through:

- The annual monitoring cycle, including scrutiny of children's work;
- Discussion with class teachers;
- Interviews with pupils;
- Questionnaires for pupils;
- Feedback from parents/carers.

Findings will be reported to the Governing Body by the Head Teacher. The policy will be amended where appropriate in response to the evaluations.

NB This policy was last updated following an extensive review involving parents/carers, governors, staff and pupils. The school has set up a homework and marking project with five local schools, and the policy will be updated during the school year 2016 – 17 in the light of this project, other research and relevant input from parents/carers and pupils.



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Homework Policy Appendix 1

Year	What	When
Nursery	Starter pack of ideas/games. Read a story and talk about it. Occasional additional tasks – preparation for learning e.g. talk about the seaside; look at a book about farm animals Sing nursery rhymes	Daily Occasionally
Reception	Reading to child own choice of book Sounds, blends and tricky words to learn PM books to re-read, as appropriate Number work e.g. counting games/formation	Daily Weekly
Year 1	Reading own choice of book Re-reading PM book High frequency words for reading High frequency words for spelling Practical maths	Daily Daily – if needed Weekly (for daily practice)
Year 2	Reading – own choice of book Reading – PM book Spellings Number bonds/tables - ongoing	Daily Daily Weekly for daily practice Daily practice
Year 3	Ongoing reading, spelling and times tables work – personalised and shared with parents. One piece of maths consolidation work	Daily Weekly
Year 4 to 6	Ongoing reading, spelling and times tables work – personalised and shared with parents. One piece of maths consolidation work One piece of written or writing related work One long-term topic related activity	Daily Weekly Termly