



Warton Nethersole's C.E. Primary School

HOMework POLICY

Policy Owner: Warton Head Teacher

Version no: 1

Next Review Date: September 2018

Sign off signatory: R. Reuter Chair of Governors

INTRODUCTION

Homework allows children to develop and consolidate skills and concepts learnt in the classroom and to explore aspects of the curriculum within the home environment.

It also offers the opportunity for parents to learn more about the work their children do at school, and participate more fully in that learning.

Homework can help children to be more independent and give them the opportunity to show initiative. We ask parents to encourage their children to think for themselves but at the same time offer help and guidance if needed.

Parents and children are encouraged to seek the help of the teaching staff if there is a difficulty or if they consider their child is not benefiting from the work at home.

At Warton Nethersole's Primary School homework aims to both develop children's learning, and their enjoyment of it. This policy has been formulated after consultation with parents, children, staff and governors and aims to reflect the ethos of our school.

THE TWO ASPECTS OF HOMEWORK AT WARTON NETHERSOLE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Informal work conducted by children from home in order to prepare for, or explore further, an aspect of work in school - for example to discover more about the Egyptians.

Children are given an element of choice about how they present their findings and a period of weeks to complete the project. Pupils are encouraged to undertake the suggested activities in order to be better prepared, and to become more involved in their learning. An overview of the curriculum topics for the year is on the school website. Project homework will usually be set over the Easter and summer holiday periods. No project work will be set at Christmas.

DIRECTED HOMEWORK

Regular work sent by class teachers to enhance learning and reinforce key concepts in core subjects for example spellings, reading and maths.

The school recognises the importance of directed homework in consolidating skills learnt in the classroom. However we do not want this to become over burdensome for children or become a deterrent to learning. If you feel homework is making your child unhappy or you perceive any difficulties at all, it is imperative that you contact your child's class teacher immediately.

Children with special educational needs will have differentiated homework where appropriate, and may also receive extra work set by either the class teacher or a HLTA teaching an intervention group.

Please note that if a child is taken out of school for a holiday staff will not set homework. Children will be encouraged to read and keep a diary while they are away.

Details about what is being taught in core subjects is given in the half-termly class newsletters.

Directed Homework is given to all pupils. Directed homework will usually be set in reading, spelling and maths journals but may also involve work on-line.

Please find below guidance regarding the amount and type of homework expected in each year group:

The Early Years Foundation Stage

- Reading (home reading books, library books and 'Bug Club').

(please note that a reading journal is established in EYFS as both a record of reading, and as a communication between parents and staff. Parents are encouraged to use this regularly).

- Letter formation/letter sound activities in the autumn term (please note that these activities are not compulsory).
- Weekly phonics homework in spring and summer terms.
- Some practical hands on maths activities.

Key Stage One (Years 1 and 2)

- Reading (home reading books, library books and 'Bug Club')
- Phonics homework.
- Spelling lists.
- Maths homework – times tables and number bonds.

Lower Key Stage Two (Years 3 and 4)

- Reading (home reading books, library books and 'Bug Club').
- Children are encouraged to write in their reading journals themselves, but parents should still write in it too. Reading journals will need to be in school for checking at least once a week – please refer to the instructions in the front cover for individual classes.
- New spelling lists will be sent home fortnightly.
- Maths homework – times tables and number bonds.

Upper Key Stage Two (Years 5 and 6)

When entering the Upper Juniors, the school prepares children for the more formal homework they might expect to receive at secondary school, and there is an expectation that all children complete homework conscientiously.

- Reading (home reading books, library books and 'Bug Club'). Children are encouraged to write in their reading journals themselves, but parents should still write in it too. Reading journals will need to be in school for checking at least once a week – please refer to the instructions in the front cover for individual classes.
- Spelling lists will be sent home fortnightly.
- Formal maths homework will also be set.

ONLINE RESOURCES

- Your child should have a log -in to the 'Bug Club' (our on-line reading resource. Please ask your child's class teacher if you need help with any on-line resources.