



HOMework ***POLICY***

Policy adopted - February 2014

Policy review Date: - February 2017

Signed _____

Headteacher

Governor

Rationale

Research has shown that homework can make a valuable contribution to students' progress at school. Evidence points to the fact that students in the highest achieving schools spend more time on learning activities at home than students in other schools.

At Broomfield Primary school we believe that the purposes of homework are:

- ❖ to develop and sustain an effective partnership with parents and carers in pursuing the aims of the school.
- ❖ the involvement of parents and carers in their children's learning and to keep them informed about the work their children are doing.
- ❖ to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding developed at school.
- ❖ to extend school learning.
- ❖ to encourage students to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own and prepare them for high school.

Role of parents and carers

- ❖ To provide a peaceful and suitable place in which homework can be carried out
- ❖ To support the school by showing that homework is valued, and explain its value in helping their children to make progress.
- ❖ To encourage and give praise for completed homework.
- ❖ To check that deadlines are met.
- ❖ If any child does not understand a task, parents should encourage their child to ask their teacher for further guidance. For children in Key Stage 2 who have difficulty completing homework, a lunchtime session will be made available for them to complete it.

Amount of homework

Homework is structured so that there is a gradual development in its amount and complexity as the children move through the school.

Each year in school has a homework timetable and these will be sent home in the first week of the new academic year. This will allow parents and carers to support their children in planning their study time.

AGREED SCHOOL HOMEWORK TASKS & AMOUNTS PER WEEK

Homework needs to be a positive experience. It should be a time of sharing, talking and discussion. Short activities of different kinds - simple games, learning spellings and number facts and, of

course, reading together provide a very important opportunity for young children to talk about what they are learning to an interested adult, and to practise key skills in a supportive environment.

Reading

Regular reading is vital and for children at Broomfield Primary School homework will very largely consist of regular reading to parents and carers. Reading includes discussion about a book and its pictures, not necessarily always reading the words. Guidance is given in our reading diaries as well as in KS1 workshops.

Spelling

Year 1 and Year 2 have word cards to complete before they are sent any spellings to learn. In KS2 spellings are issued weekly.

Expectations for individual year groups

Foundation

When a child starts school, you are issued with a starting school booklet, which gives suggestions of activities you may like to undertake with your child. The child is given a set of key words. Once words can be read new words are given until all of the first key words are known. Reading scheme books are given each week. Reading and learning words/sounds related to the reading scheme should be for approximately 10 minutes each day. Often there is topic related homework e.g. they are asked to bring something in from home/find out about a topic. Phonemes and tricky word cards are used alongside grapheme formation booklets that are sent home weekly. Handwriting of individual names is practiced when needed.

Year 1

Reading books are issued and changed as children progress through the reading scheme. Individual children may have target words to learn. Throughout the year there will be topic related homework e.g. they are asked to bring something in from home/find out about a topic. Homework should not take any longer than 20 minutes.

Year 2

At Year 2 children are encouraged to become more independent in their reading. During this year children will be reading books from the reading scheme according to their progress. A weekly piece of homework will be set to reinforce the learning taking place in school. Homework should not take any longer than 20 minutes.

Years 3,4,5 & 6

One piece of homework per week will be issued, this could be maths, English, science, history etc. There is an expectation that multiplication tables will be practised weekly at home.

Each homework (including spelling and reading) should take no more than 1 hour on average.

We are delighted if some children wish to spend longer than this, however, if your child is regularly taking much longer than the guideline amount of time and is struggling to complete tasks, please call into school to arrange a time to discuss this with the class teacher.

Monitoring

Both parents and teachers play a crucial role in monitoring homework. Parents are asked to check that homework has been given and then completed and to support children with home reading tasks. Parents who are worried in any way about their child's homework are warmly encouraged to come into school to discuss this at any time.

Teachers will make sure that homework is given at the correct time and recorded accurately. Pupils should be given clear instructions that can be translated by their parents. Homework sheets with examples on them can be very helpful to both pupils and parents.

Teachers are responsible for monitoring their pupil's homework. In KS2, children will be reminded to bring homework in the day after it is due, if this is not carried out then the child will stay in at playtime to complete it.

Feedback & Rewarding good homework

Feedback will be given promptly and be in line with the school policy on Marking and Feedback but need not necessarily be written.

In Foundation Stage & Key Stage 1 pupils will be rewarded with stickers for completing homework tasks and returning them on time.

In Key Stage 2 class teachers can also use stickers and comment to praise effort and attitude to homework.

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