

The Royal High Primary School



Homework Policy Statement and Guidelines

Draft September 2018

RATIONALE

Homework should be an extension of children's learning at school together with opportunities to develop and share interests outside of school. Homework should be an enjoyable experience where children are encouraged to use initiative when developing their own personal learning.

AIMS

At The Royal High Primary School we aim to:

- Build effective learning partnerships between school and home.
- Consolidate, and where possible, consolidate and extend skills and understanding in specific curricular areas.
- Provide experiences that are appropriate to the age and ability of the child.
- Develop skills of using available resources out of school.
- Encourage personal organisation and self-discipline required for lifelong learning.

HOMEWORK ACROSS THE SCHOOL

Throughout the school, in accordance with Curriculum for Excellence, teachers will provide the stimulus for homework activities. This work should be clearly linked to class work and set at an appropriate level regarding the child's ability. Homework tasks should not place an undue burden on the ability of parents and carers in terms of support or resources. It is our aim for school and home to work together in a bid to encourage *reading for pleasure*. An important part of the homework process is to encourage children to recognise and celebrate their own successes, achievements and interests outside school.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Leadership Team (HT and DHT) will:

- Support the policy and guidelines by allocating the required resources.

- Review the policy regularly with pupils, staff and parents.
- Evaluate the policy and guidelines through established evaluation procedures.

Teachers will:

- Provide relevant and meaningful stimulus for homework tasks.
- Encourage children to develop and share interests and achievements outside school.
- Inform parents of homework tasks via termly class newsletters.

Pupils will:

- Inform parents of current homework tasks.
- Undertake tasks as set by their teachers.
- Complete homework tasks with the same level of accuracy and neatness expected in the class room.
- Complete work on time.
- Inform the teacher if the homework is too difficult (or too easy!!!).

Parents/carers are encouraged:

- To take an active interest in the opportunities provided for extended learning.
- Ensure that their child has the appropriate environment to undertake the homework tasks.
- Review their child's work to ensure it has been completed and to 'sign off' their homework.
- To contact the class teacher or school if there is a difficulty with the homework task.
- Support their child with regard to sharing successes, achievements and hobbies/interests.

Appendix 1 - FOR PARENTS



WHAT IS HOMEWORK?

Homework will cover some specific curricular areas (see Appendix 2). It can take the form of initial sounds, written work, spelling, reading, numeracy and preparation for talks or presentations.

HOW LONG SHOULD HOMEWORK TAKE?

The following is an average of how long homework should take to complete:

- P.1 and P.2 = 10 minutes
- P.3 and P.4 = 15 minutes
- P.5 = 20 minutes
- P.6 = 25 minutes
- P.7 = 30 minutes

Parents should observe how long their child has worked on a task to ensure they do not work longer than the suggested time. We are mindful that the child may have other activities, that families require 'family time' and that we do not want homework to be a negative or difficult experience.

THE HOMEWORK TEAM - WHO DOES WHAT?



The role of the pupil:

- To make sure that you know what you have to do **BEFORE** you leave school.
- To undertake the task that has been set.
- To complete work as neatly as possible.
- To discuss the homework with your parent, carer or supporter.
- To submit the homework on time.
- To speak to the teacher if the homework is too difficult or too easy.



The role of the teacher:

- To prepare and set meaningful homework that encourages learning out of school.
- To monitor and evaluate homework.

- To ensure pupils are clear about what they have to do and about standards and expectations.
- Weekly tasks should consist of spelling, reading with associated tasks and numeracy/mathematics.



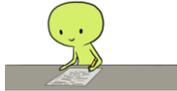
The role of the parent:

- Try to provide a quiet area - free from distraction.
- Make regular checks to evaluate how your child is managing the homework task.
- Encourage your child to do their best.
- Praise your child where and when appropriate.
- Sign your child's homework as part of the 'supportive' process.
- Communicate with the school in the event of any issues.

You can:

- Make an appointment to speak to your child's class teacher.
- Make an appointment to speak to the Deputy Head Teacher or Head Teacher.

Appendix 2 - Homework Ideas



Numeracy/Mathematics

- Number bonds
- Processes - addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- Times tables
- Time and timetables
- Sumdog
- Number games - ludo, snap, snakes and ladders, chess and draughts.
- Some examples of problem solving

Literacy/Language

- Initial Sounds
- Reading activity (comprehension)
- Spelling activity
- Writing activity (review/report/poetry/directions)
- Reading for enjoyment/pleasure
- Preparing a talk/presentation (this may be linked to the class topic study)
- Literacy games - Scrabble, Boggle, Cranium, Pictionary, Cluedo