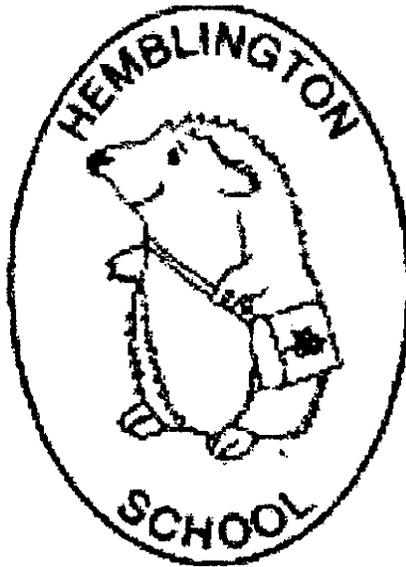


Hemblington Primary School



Homework Policy

Signed:

Date Reviewed: March 2021

Next Review Date: March 2023

POLICY

What is homework?

We believe homework refers to any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers. Homework has a role to play in helping children to get the best from their school experiences; homework should be a positive experience, and may take many forms. It aims to consolidate and build on learning done during the school day, and for our pupils a main focus will be on reading.

Through this policy we aim to:

- (a) ensure consistency of approach throughout the school;
- (b) ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility;
- (c) ensure the needs of individual children are taken into account;
- (d) ensure parents and carers have a clear understanding about expectations from themselves and pupils;
- (e) extend and support the learning experience via reinforcement and revision;
- (f) provide opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work in partnership;
- (g) provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences;
- (h) encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently and prepare them for transfer to secondary school.

Time allocation

There is no specific time allocation of time for homework recommended by the government. At Hemblington we believe homework should be a regular part of a child's learning, particularly in the case of reading.

Reading is a key part of our homework: We believe it is essential for all primary aged children, even fluent readers, to read to parents/carers regularly and have the opportunity to discuss the books they have read with them. This is the most essential element of homework for all our pupils and should take place daily. It is extremely important for parents to discuss the text/pictures/concepts at all levels of reading ability. Once the child becomes fluent, and in upper Key Stage 2, pupils should be reading independently for 15- 20 minutes a day, but reading to a parent or carer should still take place regularly. Other homework tasks may be set in addition to reading, but reading remains our priority as a school.

Year R	Sharing books daily, sound work activities to learn phonemes and sight words. Listening to children read and discussing the pictures, reading to children and developing a sense of reading for pleasure. Simple number games. Access to Numbots for mathematics.
Year 1	Daily reading to parent or carer for 10 minutes, sharing books and reading to children, developing a sense of reading for pleasure, spellings weekly; 'Show & Tell', linked to topics/ home /school learning. Weekly focus on spellings / high frequency words. Access to Numbots for mathematics.
Year 2	Daily reading to parent or carer for 10 minutes; sharing books and reading to children, developing a sense of reading for pleasure, spellings weekly to include high frequency words; occasional pieces of other homework to be done with parents (eg finding information or items for class work) linked to curriculum. Show and Tell preparation linked to topics and home life.

	Access to Numbots/TT Rockstars.
Year 3	Daily reading to parent or carer for 10-15 mins, sharing books and reading to children, developing a sense of reading for pleasure; spellings weekly; One piece of literacy/topic work <u>or</u> one piece of maths work a week (these may be practical activities and include time spent using the Times Tables Rockstars platform).
Year 4	Daily reading to parent or carer for 15-20 mins; spellings weekly; One piece of maths work a week (these may be practical activities and include time spent using the Times Tables Rockstars platform). Topic based half termly home learning project.
Year 5	Daily reading by the child to a parent or carer for 20 mins, which is in addition to any other homework set (for fluent readers, children may occasionally read to themselves, but parents/carers should listen to reading a minimum of twice in each week). Weekly spellings, a linked spelling activity. One piece of homework which may be English/topic based weekly and /or topic based half termly home learning project. These may be practical activities, research, consolidation of class work and include time spent using the Times Tables Rockstars platform.
Year 6	Daily reading by the child to a parent or carer for 20 mins, which is in addition to any other homework set (for fluent readers, children may read to themselves, but parents/carers should listen to reading a minimum of twice in each week). Spelling and spelling activity weekly. Regular grammar learning set. One piece of literacy/topic work and one piece of maths work a week (these may be practical activities, research, consolidation of class work and include time spent using the Times Tables Rockstars platform) Spring term – targeted revision for SATs Topic based termly home learning projects may be set where appropriate. .

Google Classroom

All classes have Google Classroom set up and this is used for setting homework alongside any paper based resources where appropriate.

SEND

Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities will generally be set tasks with similar objectives to their peers, but with adjustments and support as appropriate in order to access the learning. Consultation with parents or carers will be undertaken about homework provision where necessary.

Planning and Co-ordination

Class teachers will be responsible for the planning, setting and marking of homework. Care will be taken to ensure that the demands of homework on children and parents or carers are manageable; we strongly believe that children work hard at their learning in school, and need time to relax and play at home. Teachers will ensure that children are given a sufficient number of days to complete homework tasks.

The demands of homework may vary over the year, depending on other events that children are participating in and the cycle of learning. In particular, reading will be the principal form of homework between summer half term and the end of the academic year, as this is when teachers are preparing reports, and children are taking part in a range of other learning activities such as residential and other visits.

The Role of Parents and Carers

Homework is most effective when parents or carers:

- provide a suitable place in which children can do their homework; this should be a quiet area away from distractions;
- support the school in valuing homework and encouraging its completion to a high standard;
- encourage children and praise them when they have completed homework;
- draw the distinction between helping the child and doing the work for them;
- understand that too much homework is not helpful for motivating learning;
- understand that homework sometimes provides a benchmark for the adult to show the level at which your child is working – in some cases, a child may not be able to complete the whole task.

To be most effective, an adult should be available to support the child whilst they do their homework, working alongside when appropriate to motivate and encourage. This will be essential for the youngest children, those who find some aspects of the curriculum more challenging, and for reading.

Responding to Homework

Homework will always be valued in recognition of the time and effort children, parents and carers have made. We will strive to maintain children's motivation. Teachers will plan a response to ensure this; detailed written feedback will not be appropriate in most cases. A homework/reading reminder slip may be issued, at the teacher's discretion.

Recording Homework

Teachers will make appropriate provision for the recording of homework for the children in their class; this will depend on the age of the children and the nature of the task. Teachers take note of which children complete homework; if a child consistently fails to complete homework, the child may be required to complete the work in school time, particularly where it is impacting on learning in the classroom. Where appropriate Google Classroom will be used for this purpose.

Review

The homework policy will be reviewed every two years, or sooner if required.

Approved by Governors: March 2021

Review date: March 2023