

# Holy Trinity CE Primary Academy



C. E. PRIMARY ACADEMY  
(HANDSWORTH)

## Homework Policy

### Approval and review

This policy statement reflects the consensus of the whole staff. It has been written following consultation and discussion with the whole staff in October 2015, presented to the Curriculum and Community Committee in January 2016 and was agreed by the school's Governing Body at their meeting in February 2016. The effectiveness of this policy will be discussed and reviewed at a staff meeting bi-annually and presented to the Governing Body for their information.

## **Homework Policy**

### **1. Purpose of Homework**

A reasonable amount of homework should be set by the class teacher because:

- 1.1 It encourages a partnership between home and school.
- 1.2 Parents have the opportunity of becoming involved with their children's learning.
- 1.3 Homework is closely linked to the curriculum so that learning is reinforced and consolidated.
- 1.4 It encourages children to develop a routine and helps them to take some responsibility for their own learning.

Homework is not set to keep children occupied  
nor is it set to be done as an isolated activity  
completed without the support or interest of parents.

### **2. Different types of homework to be set**

Homework should include:

- 2.1 work which reinforces the curriculum taught in class.
- 2.2 English activities, including reading, writing and spelling.
- 2.3 Mathematical activities, to support and reinforce the work carried out in class.
- 2.4 Science activities, that give the children a choice and allows them to investigate and present their work in their own way.
- 2.5 (at times) work which may need to be finished off at home.

### **3. Amount of time spent on homework each week**

Guidelines are:

Nuresery and Reception	10 minutes daily	Basic English and Maths. work
Years 1 & 2	1 hour per week	English work to include reading and spelling Mathematics. work Science work
Years 3 & 4	1.5 hours per week	English, Maths. and Science as for Years 1 and 2 with occasional assignments in other subjects.
Years 5 & 6	30 minutes per day	Regular weekly schedule with continued emphasis on English, Maths. and Science but also ranging widely over the curriculum.

#### **4. Other Guidelines (in line with advice issued by the Government) :**

- 4.1 All children will be given homework from Nursery through to Year 6. It will vary according to the age and ability of the children.
- 4.2 Homework not brought to or handed in at school on the correct day will be recorded as incomplete even if it was completed at home.
- 4.3 All homework is sent home on Thursdays and should be handed in on or before Wednesday on the following week (7 days). On Thursdays after school there will be a catch up session. All children who have not completed their homework must attend this session.
- 4.4 Completed homework will be recorded.

#### **5. English**

"Regular reading is vital. It is recommended that all primary age children should either read to their parents or carers, listen to them reading or, if they are fluent readers, read on their own for at least 10 to 20 minutes each day."

- 5.1 Reading should take place at home for at least ten minutes every day. This may be a shared time for parent/adult and child together or may be a time where the child reads independently. Pages read will be recorded in the Reading Diary either by parent/s or by the child, as appropriate.
- 5.2 Each week children will be given a set of words from their Keywords (N/R/Y1/Y2) , their Word Challenge (Y2 – Y6) or linked to the spelling pattern looked at in class which has been planned by the school. Children will be tested on these words the following week. Children should practise reading, writing and spelling these words every day.
- 5.3 Each week, children, supported by parents will complete an entry in their Reading Diary which must be signed by a parent or carer. This homework will be set on a Thursday and will be expected to be completed and handed in by the following Wednesday morning.

#### **6. Mathematics**

- 6.1 Each week, a piece of Maths. homework will be set and sent home on a Thursday, to be completed and handed in by Wednesday of the following week. This task is most likely to support work done in class the previous week.
- 6.2 The work set should extend or consolidate the work completed in class. The presentation should be consistent so that parents and children are used to it and understand it. From 2 digit upwards, set out should be in columns. Children should be encouraged to learn tables by rote and at speed.

#### **7. Science**

- 6.3 In order to raise standards in Science, children in Y1 – Y6 will be issued with Science homework on a weekly basis. Science homework will be set and sent home on a Thursday and should be completed and handed in by the following Wednesday morning.

- 6.4 The homework is based around '6 ways to be smart'. The children will be set at least 6 different activities at the start of the half term linked to the topics covered during the half term. Each week the children choose which piece of work they want to complete and how they want to present it. All work is based around investigation. The children will be reminded of the different activities on a weekly basis. The children will also be given a written task each week to complete **if** they don't wish to carry out one of the investigative tasks.

## **8. Other Curriculum Areas**

In addition, other homework may be set, as appropriate, connected with the main class topic.

## **9. The role of staff**

As part of the ethos of the school and in line with the Home School Partnership Agreement, we believe that homework is essential in order for progress to be made and that staff have a vital part to play in that process. Staff should:

- 9.1 Provide a differentiated piece of homework in English, Maths., and Science each week for each child.
- 9.2 Support and encourage the children and explain the value of homework.
- 9.3 Praise children when they have completed their homework tasks.
- 9.4 Encourage the children to return their homework by the stated time. The expectation is  
that pupils will complete the homework set and that if they regularly fail to complete homework tasks, a written reminder will be sent home.
- 9.5 Each class teacher keeps a register of completed homework. This helps to monitor  
children's attitudes and achievement and helps inform discussions with parents at Parents' Evenings.
- 9.6 Go through the homework with the children so that they understand the value of doing  
their best in completing and presenting their homework.
- 9.7 Inform the parents if homework is not being brought home on a regular basis so that  
parents/carers and school can work together to tackle this issue as soon as possible.
- 9.8 Staff will take it in turns on a weekly basis to run a drop in session for all children who have not completed their homework on a Thursday after school. The intention is that all children will complete their homework during this time.

## **10. The role of parents and carers**

As part of the ethos of the school and in line with the Home School Partnership Agreement, we believe that homework is essential in order for progress to be made and that parents/carers have a vital part to play at home. Parents/carers should:

- 10.1 Provide a suitable place in which children can do their homework (quiet, with a table and suitable pens/pencils etc.).
- 10.2 Support and encourage their children and explain the value of homework.
- 10.3 Praise children when they have completed their homework tasks.
- 10.4 Ensure that children return homework by the stated time. The expectation is that pupils will complete the homework set and that if they regularly fail to complete homework tasks, a written reminder will be sent home.
- 10.5 Understand that additional homework will not be set because a child has been taken out of school.
- 10.6 Inform the school if homework is not being brought home on a regular basis so that school can tackle this issue as soon as possible.