

Guilden Sutton Church of England Primary School



'Love and Justice for All'

'And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.'
Micah 6:8.

through the teachings of Jesus all can flourish spiritually, emotionally and academically throughout life, living out love and justice for all.

Homework Policy 2023 - 2024

Staff member responsible	Mrs T. Rainford
Governor/Other responsible	Mrs. S Bayton
Date of Policy	October 2023
Reviewed	Every 3 years

Introduction

Homework is anything that children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers for parents to support their child's learning. For example, a parent who spends time reading a story to their child before bedtime is helping with homework. This policy is based on government guidelines which emphasise the importance of homework and how it helps your child to learn, rather than focusing on the amount of time it should take.

Rationale for Homework

Homework is a very important part of your child's education and can add much to their development. We recognise that the time and resources available limit the educational experience that any school by itself can provide; children benefit greatly, therefore, from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school.

We see homework as an important way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents. One of the aims of our school is for children to develop as independent learners. We believe that homework is one of the ways in which children can acquire the skills of independent learning.

Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. Whilst homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in a wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations that play an important part in their lives.

Aims

Through this policy we aim to:

- Enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development.
- Help pupils develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
- Promote a partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning.
- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom.
- Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- Consolidate and reinforce their learning in school.
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- Help children develop good work habits for the future.

Foundation Stage

Homework for Foundation Stage (Reception Class) is based around reading and enjoying stories together. This time together plays a vital part in your child's development and it is very important that the school works in partnership with parents to give each child a love of reading and to develop those crucial early skills. Helpful guidance is available in Guilden Sutton's 'Starting School' booklet.

Key Stage 1

In Year 1, it is recommended that your child should be reading with an adult every night. The reading log should be signed and dated with a written comment to support our home school agreement. Also, a piece of homework relating to maths, English or another subject being covered at that particular time will be given. You will be informed of the phonics covered on a weekly basis.

In Year 2, weekly spellings, daily reading books and a piece of homework in maths, English or another subject covered throughout the week will be given.

Key Stage 2

At Key Stage 2, we set a piece of homework every week which alternates between English and maths, but it could also be homework relating to the topics being taught. This might be independent research needed, ready for work to be carried out in class, e.g. presentations or biographical writing. Should this be the case, teachers will indicate how long your child should spend on completing the research or how much information should be produced.

We encourage your child to take their reading book and reading log home each night and to spend at least 10 minutes reading, preferably to an adult who will then sign and date it, commenting on their child's achievement. We also set homework as a means of helping children to learn their times tables and spellings for their weekly tests.

In Years 3 and 4, your child is expected to spend approximately 2 hours per week on homework. In Years 5 and 6, they are encouraged to spend 2.5 hours per week – this includes reading, spellings and times tables. In preparation for secondary school, Year 6 will be given a piece of English and maths each week.

The Role of Teachers

Teachers will ensure that homework is set with clear instructions. This could be in their homework book or on the class blog. Year 6 will write down homework in their Planners which will be given out at the beginning of each year. Teachers will provide feedback to children about their homework through a written remark and also, if appropriate, verbal feedback.

The Role of Parents/Carers

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education and working in partnership with the school to support homework activities is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. Help your child when necessary and provide them with the sort of environment and simple equipment that allows them to do their best.

We ask parents to check that the homework is completed and then sign and date each piece with a comment. Please remind children that the same standards of presentation are expected in their homework book as in any other book.

The homework timetable for each class is as follows:

Class	Day Given	Return By	Homework Activity
Reception/EYFS	Daily	-	Reading with parents
Year 1	Friday	Thursday	Maths or English/phonics
Year 2	Friday	Thursday	Maths/English/spellings
Year 3	Friday	Thursday	Maths/English/spellings/ times tables
Year 4	Friday	Thursday	Maths/English/spellings/ times tables
Year 5	Friday	Thursday	Maths/English/spellings/ times tables
Year 6	Friday	Thursday	Maths/English/spellings/ times tables
All classes: 10 minutes reading per day with an adult KS2 classes: mental arithmetic and spelling test preparation.			

Homework will start the first full week of each new term.

Inclusion

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has special needs, we adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way. If parents have any concerns or questions about homework, they should contact their child's class teacher.