

# Bushbury Hill Primary School



## Homework Policy



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## BHPS Homework Policy

### **Introduction**

Homework is anything children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning, in response to guidance from our school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents/carers to support the children's learning. For example, parents or carers who spend time reading stories to their children before bedtime are helping with homework.

### **Rationale for homework**

Homework is a very important part of a child's education, and can add much to a child's development. We recognise that the educational experience that any school by itself can provide is limited by the time and resources available; children can therefore benefit greatly from the complementary learning that they do at home and outside of school. Indeed, we see homework as an important example of cooperation between teachers and parents/carers. One of the main aims of our 'Learning Challenge Creative Curriculum' method of teaching, is for children to develop as independent learners, and we believe that doing homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.

Metacognition is a huge focus for our school so the children 'know more to remember more'. We aim to provide homework which builds their metacognition across the curriculum.

Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. However, we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the activities of various out-of-school clubs and of other organisations that play an important part in the lives of our pupils. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe that they develop their interests and skills to the full only when parents/carers encourage them to make maximum use of the opportunities available outside school.

### **Aims and objectives**

- to enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- to develop pupils' metacognitive skills;
- to help pupils develop the skills of being an independent learner;
- to promote cooperation between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- to enable all aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth;
- to consolidate and reinforce the learning carried out in school, and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons;
- to encourage pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own, prepare them for study at secondary school and develop good work habits for the future.

### **Expectations for homework for different year groups**

To encourage the children to 'know more and remember more' we will provide the following:

- Maths homework will focus on prior knowledge and also on the key areas of place value, number and FDP
- Reading homework will focus on prior topics that they have learnt across the curriculum, not only in their current year groups but also from previous year groups too, e.g. science, geography, history, art, etc.

### **Guidance for the amount and type of Homework to be set for each Year group, each week.**

<b><u>Weekly Time Allocation</u></b>	<b><u>Homework Activities with time to be spent daily/weekly</u></b>
<b><u>Nursery</u></b> Weekly 35 minutes	Reading / Sharing a book, practising letter sounds, key words and number recognition - Daily – approximately 5 minutes
<b><u>Reception &amp; Year 1</u></b> Weekly 1 hr per week	Reading - Daily – approx. 5 mins RWInc, Key words & Spellings - 5 mins 2-3 times a week Number Bonds or counting in multiples of 2s, 5s and 10s - 5 mins 2-3 times a week One activity sheet – 10mins

<b>Years 2 &amp; 3 Weekly</b> <b>1 ½ hrs a week</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"> <b>Reading - Daily – approx. 10 mins</b>  <b>Spelling/ keywords - 5 mins 2-3 times a week</b>  <b>Number Bonds or tables - 5 minutes x 2 per week</b>  <b>Literacy or Maths (alternate weeks) - Approx. 20 minutes</b> </p>
<b>Years 4 &amp; 5 Weekly</b> <b>1 ½ hrs a week</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"> <b>Reading - Daily – approx. 10 mins</b>  <b>Spelling / keywords - 5 mins 2-3 times a week</b>  <b>Times tables - 5 minutes x 2 per week</b>  <b>Literacy and Maths work set - Approx. 30 minutes</b> </p>
<b>Year 6</b> <b>Weekly 2-2 ½ hrs a week</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"> <b>Reading - Daily – approx. 15 mins</b>  <b>TimesTables - 5 mins twice a week</b>  <b>Spellings - 5 mins twice a week</b>  <b>Two additional pieces of work each designed to take 20 minutes to complete - Approx. 2 x 20 minutes</b> </p>

### **Year 6**

We also set homework as a means of helping the children to revise for SATs examinations taken in Y6, to ensure that prior learning has been understood. This takes the form of daily revision for an approximate six week period.

### **Presentation of homework**

Although this is carried out at home, we expect the same quality as a school book. Children need to write in pencil please.

### **Marking**

Homework is marked by the class teacher according to the general school marking policy for Reception – Year 2. Homework in Yrs 3 – 6 will be explained on a Friday and may be self-marked by children and checked by the teacher. Homework completed well is acknowledged and praised. There may be issues arising from the work, which the teacher will follow up in lesson time.

### **Rewarding homework**

Each child that hands in their homework on time, receives Dojo points which contributes to them gaining a dojo award. In addition, they may also be given stickers if the teachers wish. Homework which has been completed is recorded weekly to ensure fairness.

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

Parents and carers have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents and carers to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as and when they feel it to be necessary, and to provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents and carers can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by discussing the work that their child is doing and encouraging and praising their efforts. If parents and carers have any questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher through Class Dojo in the first instance.

### **Use of ICT**

The use of ICT and the Internet continues to make a significant contribution to the amount of reference material available at home, and the ease and speed with which it can be accessed. The children all have a login for TTRockstars and Spelling Shed. The children are encouraged to go on these each regularly at home. Weekly rewards for each are given out in assembly weekly to encourage regular usage.

### **Use of book bags**

The children are encouraged to have a labelled green school book bag (or own appropriate sized bag) in which to keep in their school books and homework books / folders. It keeps everything together and means that books are less likely to be lost.

## **Monitoring and review**

The Curriculum & Standards Committee is responsible for monitoring the implementation and effectiveness of this policy.

## **Homework Guidance for Parents from September 2022**

### **Why do we set homework?**

Many parents wish to help their child to make progress at Bushbury Hill. We feel that pupils should enjoy a range of learning experiences outside school, so want to make it purposeful and manageable. We aim to work in partnership with parents to consolidate and share the learning undertaken in the classroom. **How will school support homework?**

- Teachers will provide an overview on the new topic each half term so that parents can take part their child's learning.
- Suitable homework for your child's age will be given out on a Monday and be collected in on a Friday.
- Homework will be marked, so pupils know whether their work is correct and that it has been valued.
- Teachers will reward pupils for completion.

### **How can parents support homework?**

- Provide a suitable place and a pencil for pupils to complete their homework.
- Help your child look after their reading and homework books by purchasing a book bag (available at the office or Kid's corner).
- Encourage and praise your child for engaging in homework.
- Replace lost books – see office for charges.
- Contact school, should you have any concerns about homework.

For a full copy of the policy, please visit the website [www.bushburyhillprimary.co.uk](http://www.bushburyhillprimary.co.uk) or contact the school office.