

WALDRINGFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL



We care, we share, we learn together

Homework Policy

ADOPTED: May 2017

REVIEWED: November 2018

DATE OF NEXT REVIEW:

Aim: We believe that the range of homework we provide will help pupils develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful, lifelong learning.

We attach great importance to the links that exist between home and school; it is only by working together that we can ensure the best possible education for your child. One important aspect of this joint effort is homework. To be effective homework needs to be part of a wider partnership between parents and school. Parents have a key role to play in ensuring their children develop and maintain good homework habits. We believe that pupils can best benefit from the work they bring home if they have full parental support. It is for this reason that this policy outlines our expectations.

The school believes that homework is an essential part of learning. It can contribute very effectively to raising achievement, for the following reasons:

- It encourages pupils to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study.
- It reinforces the learning in the classroom
- It gives pupils an opportunity to work independently, and to take responsibility for their own learning.
- It helps teachers check that pupils have understood class work.
- It can be used to extend work carried out in class.
- It can strengthen the liaison between home and school by increasing parental awareness of what their child is doing at school and giving them the opportunity to become actively involved.
- It allows pupils opportunities to extend their learning in more depth in areas that interest them and so develops their love of learning and independent research skills.
- It prepares pupils for the requirements of secondary school.

Timing and quantity of homework

The purposes of homework change as children move through the school. For children in Hedgehogs, developing a partnership with parents and involving them actively is the main purpose and the activities sent home may not be described as homework. Homework will largely consist of regular reading with parents and looking at books together. Daily reading practice and listening to others read continues to be essential right through primary school. Hedgehogs children take it in turns to complete a weekly literacy and maths activity which is sent home. Through Tapestry (online learning journal) home learning activities are suggested every week.

Range of homework tasks

Take away Tasks: From Squirrels class and above your child will come home each half term with a range of Take Away tasks. These are a variety of tasks covering different subject areas. They are intended to appeal to different learning styles. Pupils can select from a wide range of projects. We hope these will give the children a much greater sense of ownership of their learning and allow them to develop independent learning skills. You are encouraged to provide feedback on how your child has found each task on a review form which can be downloaded from the website (*appendix 1*)

It is the expectation that children in the Badgers class will “create” one whole meal during the half term (1 starter, 1 main and 1 dessert), Children in Owls class will “create” two whole meals each half term. It is the responsibility of the child to organise themselves and to produce their meals at a time (during the half term) that suits them. As a taster children in Key Stage 1 will be asked to complete one task during each half term.

Literacy and Numeracy Tasks: Sometimes it may be beneficial to you or to your child for the class teacher to send some additional work home, linked to English or Maths. This work may be to challenge your child or to support them with something they found difficult in class.

Online learning: When the school has registered for an online learning application, your child’s username and password will be sent home in accordance with our GDPR procedures. Your child will be given time during the school day to access this learning resource and there is an expectation that they will also access it at home.

We aim to prepare pupils for the transition to secondary school where the expectation in year 7 is that they will be spending an increasing amount of time on homework. It is important that pupils should gradually get into the habit of regularly devoting periods of time to study on their own. We want the transition to secondary school to be as smooth as possible. With this in mind we do send more work home during Year 6, particularly in the Spring and Summer Terms.

We aim to:

- Offer carefully planned and structured homework to consolidate learning;
- Offer consistent practice across the school in setting, managing and providing feedback for homework;
- Offer a regular programme so that teachers, children and parents know what to expect half term
- Ensure pupils and parents are very clear about what they need to do;
- Ensure parents are treated as partners in their children’s learning;
- Have high expectations of pupils completing homework;
- Ensure pupils receive prompt, clear feedback on their work;
- Ensure the needs of the individual pupil are taken into account;
- Provide opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work in partnership;
- Provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work/learn together and to enjoy learning experiences.

The role parents and carers in supporting children

- Encourage children to carry out homework tasks in quiet places away from distractions whenever possible.
- Encourage children to do the work independently
- Support them to plan and organise time so tasks are not left until the last minute.
- Make it clear to your child that you value homework, and support the school by explaining how it can help their learning.
- Become actively involved in homework activities with your child, especially with younger pupils. The Take Away Tasks provide an ideal opportunity to do this.
- Encourage children and praise them when they have completed homework.

The homework policy will be monitored and evaluated to ensure we are supporting pupil's learning in the best possible way.

Waldringfield Primary School

Waldringfield Woodbridge Suffolk IP12 4QL

Telephone 01473 736276

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Headteacher Mrs S Wood BAed (Hons) MAed NPQH



Take Away Task Review Form

We welcome additional information from home regarding homework tasks. Please use this form to share your views.

Take Away Task _____

Child's comment <i>How did you find the task? What did you gain from the experience? What would you change? What have you learnt etc</i>	
Parents' comment <i>Child's perseverance, independent abilities, research skills used, ability to think of initial ideas and designs, general feel about task, suggestions etc.</i>	
Teacher comment	

Please use the space below to make further notes if required or attach a photograph of the finished task.

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Dear Parent,

We attach great importance to the links that exist between home and school, and it is only by working together that we can ensure the best possible education for your child. One important aspect of this joint effort is homework.

We are writing to inform you that:

Your child needed to attend the Homework Club as they had not completed their homework by the due date.

Your child has not completed any Take Away Tasks.

Teacher Comment:

We understand there could be many reasons for this being the case and so we would like to work with you to support your child. If extra support is required then we would be happy to provide this.

If you would like to read our school homework policy please look on the VLE under policies.

Please use this slip if you would like to comment or pop in and discuss this with your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Wood
Headteacher

Parents comments: