



Hockliffe Lower School

Homework Policy

Rationale

We believe that through giving children tasks to complete at home strong links can be encouraged between home and school. The content of the homework should consolidate and extend the work children have studied during school hours

Aims

The school will.....

- encourage parents to get to know about their children's life in school and become actively involved in their education
- develop children's confidence and self-discipline
- encourage children to bring in learning they have done at home which follows their individual interests
- make homework balanced, manageable and suitable for each child's age, ability and aptitude
- provide a Home School Record for communication between school and home
- provide tasks related to literacy, numeracy and cross curricular learning.
- provide clear instructions and 'Parent Pointers' for parents so they can effectively support their children in their learning at home
- set tasks which allow children to think independently and use their own preferred learning style
- provide feedback to children on homework tasks completed

Parents will.....

- provide a quiet, suitable place in which children can do their homework
- support children so that their homework task can be completed to the best of their ability
- value children's work and praise their efforts
- make homework part of a regular daily routine
- talk to children about what they have been learning at school.

When children start at Hockliffe Lower School parents and the school sign a Home School agreement; part of this covers the school and parents commitment to supporting children with appropriate homework as set out in this policy.

Guidelines

Parents' information meetings will be held each September by class teachers to give details to parents of class routines and homework expectations.

Home School Records

The home school record books are used as a ...

- record of school books read,
- notes of additional homework
- for parents to write any comments about homework or
- means of any communications parents wish to have with the class teacher.

Parents and carers are asked to **sign** the book as confirmation that reading and other tasks are completed.

Learning Logs

Children in Classes 2 and 3 will be given a Learning Log in which their homework should be completed.

Learning logs contain...

- a weekly set task or a half termly selection of tasks from which children can select
- mental maths targets
- key word spelling sheets
- logins for online learning sites which children can access at home.

Parents are asked to regularly work with their children on the mental maths targets record if they consider their children have achieved the targets. Teachers will then check the child's attainments at school.

Marking – in the learning logs the children's work will be marked as following the school marking guidelines where

- Tick- the child has attempted the objective but had difficulty and shows little understanding
- One star- child has shown an improved understanding of the learning objective
- Two stars – the learning objective has been fully understood
- A gold star- excellent effort and attitude in completing the task
- A wish- the teacher may comment and suggest a way the work could have been improved so children are aware of their next steps in learning.

Parent Pointers- these may be included with some learning log investigations and tasks and are to give parents help and ideas in how they can best support their child with the work set for the week.

Reading

Children should read regularly to parents and family members at home according to the timetable below. Each night children read parents are asked to record the date, book title and pages read the home school record book. Younger children will have story books, phonic based books and word cards to help them develop a sight vocabulary.

As they become more competent readers they may be given a reading comprehension workbook (Ginn360) to help develop their understanding of the texts they read. They will be asked to answer questions and use information from the text to complete puzzles.

Spelling

Most weeks children in classes 2 and 3 are given a list of spellings to learn at home. In Class 2 these are linked to the systematic phonic spelling programme which the children follow. In Class 3 the spellings will support literacy work on grammar and investigations into word patterns or link to a cross curricular topic. Children are taught to learn spellings using the Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check, learning strategy

Library Books

In addition to books from the reading scheme, children will have the opportunity to choose a book from the library to share with parents at home or read independently. Books will be issued on the timetabled day and should be returned a week later to exchange.

Homework Timetable

	Learning Logs	Reading	Spelling	Mental maths
Class 2	Set- Wednesday In- Monday	10 mins for 5 times a week. Library- Wednesday	Set Tuesday and tested following Tuesday	Target sheets in learning logs
Class 3	Set -Friday In -Wednesday	15 mins for 4 times a week Library- Monday	Set Friday and tested following Friday	Target Sheet in learning logs

Class 1

Homework is not set in the Early Years Foundation Stage but activities are provided which parents are encouraged to use at home. These are linked to children's individual levels of development and learning. The school recommends spending a short period of time each day on sharing library books and reading scheme books, and practising Letters and Sounds. Information is also provided on how to support mathematical development in practical and interesting ways.

Review Date Sept 16.

Adopted by the Governing Body(Chair).....(Date)