



Monken Hadley CE Primary School

Seek what is good, treasure what is true, do what is right.

HOMEWORK POLICY

Ratified by	Senior Leadership Team
Date	22 nd March 2016
Date for Review	Spring Term 2018

In order that our pupils can attain the highest standard (spiritual, moral, social, cultural and academic), we recognise the crucial importance of an active educational partnership between home and school. Homework is just one of the ways in which we seek to foster this partnership. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents/carers to support children's learning.

Aims and Objectives

Regular, well planned homework can:

- Enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
- Develop good work habits and self-discipline for the future;
- Encourage skills and attitudes which help children improve their educational performance;
- Help parents gain insight into their child's schoolwork and promote partnership between home and school;
- Provide opportunities for individualised work and develop skills of independent learning;
- Offer access to resources not found in school (public libraries, local museums etc.);
- Consolidate and reinforce learning done in school and assist in preparation for future class work;
- Provide a context for pupil/parent/carer interaction;
- Homework is seen as 'an essential part of good education that supports children's development as independent learners'.

What is Homework?

Homework should not be a chore, but children should see it as an extension of their schoolwork. There may be occasions when some tasks are more challenging or difficult than usual as homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. We also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development.

We see homework as encompassing a wide range of possibilities. The following list gives just a few examples:

- reading with a parent/carer
- a family visit to a local museum or art gallery
- finishing off work from a lesson
- undertaking individual research for a project
- learning number facts (tables)
- learning spellings
- literacy activities both written and verbal

When teachers set homework they will ensure that:

- It is always clearly related to current areas of study within the classroom.
- The task is made clear to children and matched to their abilities, especially for those pupils with special educational needs.

- In Upper KS2 it is supported by a homework diary in which children and parents/carers can note success and record any problems encountered.
- Timescales for completion and submission are explicit.
- Work is marked as promptly as possible.
- Problems or difficulties encountered by children are dealt with swiftly.
- Regular completion of homework of a high standard is recognised and celebrated.
- The impact of homework upon the standards of children's attainment is monitored and included in the report to parents.
- Opportunities for the regular, formal evaluation of homework are provided for teachers, parents and children as part of the on-going consultation arrangements.
- All children will be expected to complete tasks. They will be given an opportunity to succeed in this through using a homework session in school leisure time if they continually fail to complete it.

Types and amount of homework

We increase the amount of homework that we give the children as they move through the school.

Reception

Reading daily

Reading books are changed once per week

Phonics and Maths work is given out on alternate weeks (approx. 15 mins per week)

Year 1

Reading daily

Reading books are changed twice per week

Spellings (given out weekly)

Handwriting sheet per week

English and Maths work is given out on alternate weeks (approx. 20 minutes per week)

Year 2

Reading daily

Reading books are changed twice per week

Spellings (given out weekly)

Handwriting sheet per week

English and Maths work is given out each week (approx. 30 minutes per week)

Year 3

Reading daily (at least 10 minutes per night with an adult)

Spellings (given out weekly)

Handwriting sheet per week

English and Maths work is given out each week (approx. 1 hour per week)

Year 4

Reading daily

Spellings (given out weekly)

English and Maths work is given out each week (approx. 1 hour per week)

Curiosity Curriculum – *'Think About ...'* topic homework

Year 5

Reading daily

Spellings (given out weekly)

English and Maths work is given out each week (approx. 1½ hours per week)

Extension work e.g. challenge, dictionary work

Year 6

Reading daily

Spellings (given out weekly)

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar work

English and Maths work is given out each week (approx. 2 hours per week)

Extension work e.g. challenge, dictionary work, extra for experts

Children who do not complete their homework may be asked to stay in to do so at the teacher's discretion.

If a child persistently does not complete homework then the teacher may contact the parents/carers and ask to speak to them in order for school and home to work in partnership for the benefit of the child.

The Role of Parents/Carers

Parents need to discuss with their children the following questions:

- When is it a good time to do any homework?
- Where is the best place for homework to be done?
- What helps concentration?
- How long should my homework take me?
- Should I ask for help with my homework, even when it is finishing work started in class?
- Who should I ask for help and how much help should I expect?
- It is vital that parents/carers display a positive attitude to homework and value its importance. It is also important for parents/carers to recognise that it is the children's responsibility to complete the work.

The boundary between what many parents/carers see as constructive help and what children view as interference, is indistinct and can vary from day-to-day. Parents/carers need to listen to the child's explanation of what they have to do and discuss the work their child is doing and whether or not help is needed plus what form this might take.

If parents/carers have any problems or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If they wish to then take this further, a meeting can be arranged via the School Office to see the Headteacher.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs

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 endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way.

Monitoring and Review

It is the responsibility of the Headteacher to agree and then monitor the school Homework policy. The governing body may, at any time, request from the Headteacher a report on the way homework is organised in the school.