



Boroughbridge Primary School Homework Policy

Introduction

At Boroughbridge Primary school we believe that homework provides a vital link between school, parents and children. We believe that children's learning is strongly influenced by their home and that by working in partnership we can provide the best support to allow children to succeed. We believe that an enjoyable, organised homework programme gives children the skills and self-motivation that will help them become life-long, independent learners. The aims of this policy are to clearly define homework, its purpose and homework expectations throughout Boroughbridge Primary School.

Rationale

By setting homework at Boroughbridge Primary school we aim to

- Provide children with opportunities to develop their critical thinking skills and problem solving outside a school environment.
- Allow children to pursue their own interests and lines of enquiry, in order to broaden their understanding and enrich our curriculum.
- Promote children's organisation and self-direction.
- Provide an opportunity for parents/carers to support and participate in their children's learning.
- Prepare children for secondary education.

Homework in Nursery and Reception

Homework within nursery and reception is centred around the importance of experience, exploration and language. Ideas and ways in which parents can extend and consolidate children's learning within school will be sent home on weekly newsletters. These will take the format of suggested games, activities or real life experiences. Parents are encouraged to read to children regularly and support them, in accordance with our phonics policy, in learning their early letters and sounds.

Homework in KS1

Children in KS1 are expected to read and be heard read regularly. Daily reading, as well as sharing stories and discussing texts are vital in supporting skills the children learn in school.

Children are also expected to practice spellings which are linked to the phonics phase children are working at. Spellings will be sent home in pupil planners and tested weekly.

Optional homework tasks are also sent home weekly via class newsletters. These tasks are linked to current learning within the classroom and will provide children with an opportunity to extend or practice skills learnt at school. Completed homework tasks will be given written feedback in the form of written feedback, peer assessment and verbal feedback.

Homework in KS2

Children in KS2 are expected to read daily and practice weekly spellings. Number facts are also sent home to be practiced. In KS2 children will be given choices of additional homework projects to complete each half term. These homework tasks will allow children to extend their learning by following their own interest within that curricular area. Homework projects are designed so the children can think creatively and produce any form of response. It could be a model, a project, a diagram, a chart –whatever idea they think best explores the task set. A minimum expectation is that two homework projects are completed each half term. At the end of each half term parents/carers will be invited into school to view and provide feedback on homework projects. This is to allow the children to share a learning experience and provide an opportunity to discuss and talk about their learning.

Weekly, after school homework clubs will take place for KS2 children in order to provide support and a peaceful learning environment. These clubs are available for all KS2 children.

Transition to Secondary education

In Year six, in order to best equip children for the next steps in their education, children will be set weekly homework tasks. These tasks will be specific to individual cohorts and will focus predominantly on literacy and numeracy skills. The purpose of this formal, structured homework is to develop children's responsibility, confidence and self-discipline, needed to study independently.

The role of parents/carers in supporting pupils

Parents need to support their child with homework by providing a peaceful environment, free from distractions, in which they can work independently to complete it to the highest standard. Often, particularly with younger children, parents will need to work with their child. Parents should make it clear to pupils that they value homework, and support the school by explaining how it can help their learning. Parents can offer support by discussing homework tasks with children and their potential responses to tasks set.