

Shurdington CofE Primary
Be the **BEST** we can be, through love.
Believe Enjoy Succeed Together
'Love God and love your neighbour as you love yourself.'
Matthew 22, verses 37 and 39.

Homework Policy

Shurdington Church of England policies are written in the spirit of Christian values

1 Introduction

- 1.1** We define homework as anything children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning, in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers to support the children's learning including pre-teach/research of a topic, reading or learning multiplication tables.

2 Rationale for homework

- 2.1** Children can benefit greatly from the complementary learning that they do at home. We see homework as an important example of cooperation between teachers and parents. One of the aims of our teaching is for children to develop as independent learners, and we believe that doing homework is one of the ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.
- 2.2** 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.

3 Aims and objectives

- 3.1** The aims and objectives of homework are:
- To enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
 - To help pupils develop the skills of 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 done in school, and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons;
 - To help children develop good work habits for the future.

4 Types of homework

- 4.1** Staff and pupils regard homework as an integral part of the curriculum - it is planned and prepared alongside all other programmes of learning.

- 4.2** All children will be given a Reading, Maths and Spelling homework weekly. Maths homework will focus on aspects of maths the children have already learnt previously and is used to consolidate learning. Spellings tasks may be new to children and used as a pre-teach activity or focus on the spelling rule for the week.
- 4.3** Children should be doing their tasks as independently as possible.
- 4.4** Homework is marked according to the general school marking policy, if marking is needed. Homework completed well is acknowledged and praised. Issues arising from the work will be followed up in lesson time.
- 4.5** We recognise that children have individual learning styles, which means that some tasks can be completed in a number of different ways, while others demand a particular approach.

5 Amount of homework

- 5.1** As they move through the school, we increase the amount of homework that we give the children. By the end of KS2 we expect children to spend approximately one hour a week doing maths and spelling homework; and then approximately 15 minutes each night for reading.
- 5.2** We give all our pupils a reading record book or homework diary where the homework is recorded, either by them, or by the teacher, or by the Teaching Assistant (TA), and where parents and teachers make any relevant comments.

6 Inclusion and homework

- 6.1** 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, and we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way. When setting homework to pupils who are named on the SEN register, we may refer to those pupils' My Plans. We value and celebrate the cultural diversity of our pupils and their families, and we appreciate the enrichment that this brings.
- 6.2** Pupils who do not finish and hand in homework on time, or to a satisfactory standard, may be asked to complete the tasks in their own time at school. We sometimes run an extra-curricular Homework Club to support children in undertaking homework tasks.

7 The role of parents

- 7.1** Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set independently and to provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and by discussing the work that their child is doing.
- 7.2** We ask parents to check the reading record book or diary at least once a week, and to sign it as requested.

7.3 *If parents have any questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact their child's class teacher. Finally, if they wish to make a complaint about the school homework policy, or the way it is implemented, parents should follow our complaints procedure.*

9 *Monitoring and review*

9.1 *The Headteacher, SLT and Class Teachers are responsible for coordinating and monitoring the implementation of this policy and we review all aspects of our homework provision on a regular basis.*

9.2 *It is the responsibility of our governing body to agree and then monitor the school homework policy. The Education Development committee of the governing body do this as they deal with curriculum issues. Parents regularly complete a questionnaire and our governing body pays careful consideration to any concern that is raised by any parent. Our governing body may, at any time, request from our Headteacher a report on the way homework is organised in our school.*

Signed:

Signed:

Headteacher

Chair of Governors

Date:

Date