



Homework Policy

July 2025

Newton Hill Community School

Aims

Through this policy we aim to:

- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do in terms of homework activities.
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- To use homework as a tool to help continue to raise standards of attainment.
- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to children and to extend it beyond the classroom environment.
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning.
- Encourage children and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning.
- To practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in Maths and English.
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.
- To prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school.

The Nature of Homework

It should be noted that homework can be set in many different forms. It is important to remember that when expecting and setting homework there are a number of points to consider:

1. The nature and type of homework changes throughout a pupil's school career.
2. Amount and frequency of homework should increase as a pupil gets older but this may also vary through the school year and be appropriate to the ability of the child.
3. Homework should not cause undue stress on the pupil, family or the teacher.
4. It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.
5. Homework should be set regularly from Reception to Year 6.

*Reasonable adjustments will be made if required for children with additional needs after a discussion with the class teacher and/or SENCO.

Recommended Time Allocation

Curriculum learning overviews are provided each term via Parent Hub. Learning overviews provide information for parents about learning that will take place throughout the term for all subjects. Homework activities are sent home each week.

Homework should never be too onerous nor should it ever create stress within the child's family. If parents have any concerns, they should not hesitate to contact the school.

We recommend the following time allocations each week for homework activities/tasks in addition to daily reading:

- Reception: 15 minutes
- Years 1 and 2: 20 minutes
- Years 3 and 4: 30 minutes
- Years 5 and 6: 45 minutes

Homework Tasks

Listed below are a number of example tasks and activities that may be given as homework. This is by no means an exhaustive list and is open to constant change, although many of these tasks and activities will be used on a regular basis.

Homework activities will change to meet the needs of the pupils involved and activities that might be occurring in class. All homework tasks and activities will have a clear purpose and assist pupils in the process of their academic development.

Reception

Activities will include: reading books (reading every day at home) and phonic activities. . Activities will also link to the 50 things to do before you are 5.

KS1: Year 1 and Year 2

Activities may include reading books (reading every day at home), reading comprehension (Y2), phonics activities (Y1), learning number facts and maths problems.

KS2: Year 3 and Year 4

Activities may include reading, CGP revision booklets (reading every day at home), spellings, learning times tables, maths and topic tasks.

KS2: Year 5 and Year 6

Activities may include reading, CGP revision booklets, learning spellings, , researching topics and learning times tables. .

Role of the Class Teacher

- To provide an explanation of homework tasks to children and, when necessary, parents and give guidance of how they might assist their child.
- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- To ensure that homework is set consistently across classes in the year group.
- To ensure any homework is purposeful and links directly to the curriculum being taught.
- To reward and praise children who regularly complete homework tasks.
- To mark homework appropriately which is returned on time and give feedback to pupils. This may include self-marking (KS2)
- To ensure that homework is presented in line with the school's presentation policy.

- To keep a record of homework returned/not returned and speak to parents as necessary.
- Provide opportunities for children to complete their homework at school, for example during free time.

Role of the Headteacher and Governing Body

- To check compliance of the policy.
- To meet and talk with parents when appropriate.
- To review the policy with staff

Role of Parents/Carers

- To support daily reading at home. This includes reading for pleasure.
- To support the school by ensuring that homework is attempted and that children are encouraged to independently hand this in on time
- To provide a suitable place for their child to carry out their homework.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework.
- To become actively involved and support their child with homework activities.
- To value homework and support the school by explaining how it can help learning.
- To understand by not supporting homework activities that attainment and progress may be affected.

We are very keen for parents to support and help their children with homework. We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved as long as they do not take over too much. However, there are times when we will want to see what children can do on their own. It is particularly important, as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be, they should discuss it with their child's teacher.

General

- Staff will mark/acknowledge any homework returned on time by pupils. This will help to give the whole process of setting and completing homework a higher profile and status. It will also send out the message that homework is an important and valued aspect of school life. Marking homework is a way of keeping track of who has completed their homework, and giving them feedback on how well they have met the objectives of the work. However, marking may be done in a variety of forms, some of which will not be written. Feedback may be given to individual pupils, or to groups of pupils.
- If children are absent due to illness, we will not send homework home. We would assume the child was too ill to work.
- If a child is absent for a length of time e.g. with a broken leg, the teacher and the parent will agree what should be completed, how it should be marked and what sort of help needs to be given. In such circumstances, the teacher will consult the Headteacher first.
- Homework will not be provided for holidays taken in term time.
- Parents/Carers who have queries about homework should not hesitate to contact their child's class teacher.