



## **HOMEWORK POLICY**

**(non statutory)**

Policy reviewed: May 2015

Policy approved: by Headteacher May 2015

Review date: January 2019

## THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

### Article 28

You have the right to a good quality education. You should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can.

### Article 29

Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment

This policy is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for the issuing of homework at Newlands Primary School.

### Aims

We consider that homework can support the child's learning, foster the vital links between home and school, enable parents to have a knowledge of the work being done during the school day and ensure that teachers and parents work together to promote self-discipline and good working habits.

This policy will ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.

The needs of the individual pupil will **always** be taken into account.

### Purposes of Homework

- To develop an effective partnership between the school and parents or other carers in pursuing the aims of the school
- To ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- To involve parents in the pupil's work
- To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences
- To encourage pupils to develop good working habits and self discipline as they move through school life
- To extend and reinforce classroom activities and learning experiences offered to pupils
- To prepare children, especially in Year 6, for secondary transfer
- To develop skills of investigation research and independent learning
- The class teacher will be responsible for ensuring that the demands of homework are manageable
- 'Set' homework will be expected to be completed and given in on time
- Children in Years 5 and 6 will be given increasingly more homework in order to help them adapt to the discipline of homework at secondary school
- Homework will be assessed and followed up as appropriate
- **A homework letter of instruction/note will be issued each week**
- **All children will have a home/school reading record book**

Children with Special Educational Needs will be set homework appropriate for their needs. Close co-operation will exist between class teachers and special needs support staff.

**In all of the above, the giving of homework shall remain flexible and adaptable to meet the needs of the individual and the demands of the curriculum.**

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Please find below further information about our homework procedures.

### **Infants**

All children at the beginning of their schooling will be encouraged to practise their reading skills at home.

### **In reception**

This process begins by taking a fiction book and library book home to share with the parents and then when the teacher feels that the child is ready, **they start a structured reading scheme.**

When they are ready, the children will take reading or reading activities, such as flash cards of key sounds and words, **home each day.**

We encourage parents to use homework and homework books to communicate and give feedback on their work.

Writing practice, topic work and letter formation will build each week in line with sounds covered in lessons.

**In reception, when the pupil is ready, homework will be given out each Thursday and handed in the following Tuesday.**

### **In Year 1 and 2**

Homework tasks may vary from week to week but will include maths, science, topic, reading and writing. All homework tasks will be clearly written into the homework books on a weekly basis.

Year 1 and 2 children are also encouraged to read at home as often as possible which will enable them to progress through the structured reading scheme with careful monitoring and clear pathways of progression.

**In year 1 homework will be given out on Friday and handed in the following Wednesday.**

**In year 2 homework will be given out on Friday and handed in the following Tuesday.**

### **Juniors**

All juniors have regular homework including reading, spellings, times tables and purposeful writing tasks.

### **Reading**

Juniors are expected to read for 10 minutes each evening – Monday – Friday, and a record of this should be noted in their reading record books by parents or other family members.

**In year 3, homework will be given on Friday and is to be handed in the following Thursday**

**In year 4, homework will be given on Wednesday and is to be handed in the following Monday**

**In year 5 and year 6, homework is set *every day* and is expected to be handed in the next school day.**

**In all cases, if a child is unable to complete their homework a note should be given to their class teacher.**

The children are encouraged to take their reading books home each night. It is hoped that the parents will hear their children read at home and this will support the reading that is done in school. At some point during this stage the children will become independent readers.

### **Additional tasks**

#### Spellings

Each child will be asked to learn a list of spellings each week.

#### Tables

Each child will be expected to learn their multiplication tables for regular tests.

### **KS1 and KS2 SATs**

In the lead up to SATs the children may be asked to do additional homework.

**A homework letter of instruction/note will be issued each week to help clarify what your child has been asked to do to support their learning.**

## **In support of this policy**

Parents should:

- Provide a reasonably peaceful, suitable place in which the pupil can do their homework
- Be prepared to work with the pupil to support their work at home
- Make it clear to the pupil that they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning
- Encourage pupils to present work to a suitably high standard
- Praise pupils when they have completed their homework

The pupils will:

- Be responsible for taking homework home to do and return homework to school completed on time

## **Electronic communication**

The use of on-line software will enhance communication and give children the opportunity to work on computer based educational software. These activities will be planned into the cycle of regular homework. If a child does not have access to the Internet at home then arrangements will be made to ensure that they have the opportunity to complete the task.

## **Evaluation and Review**

The Senior Leadership Team and subject managers will monitor the effectiveness of the policy to assess if the approach to homework is meeting pupils' needs and to what extent the policy is contributing to the progress pupils make at school and their attitude to learning.

This will be achieved by:

- Sampling reading diaries and homework books
- Discussion with pupils
- Discussion with parents at parents' evenings
- Sampling spelling and tables test results