

Hemingbrough CP School Homework Policy

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Date of Policy Adoption by Governing Body	Nov 2016	Signed	

What is homework?

Homework refers to any activity or work that the children are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers.

To be effective homework needs to be part of a wider partnership between home and school. A school needs to be able to count on parents' support to fulfil its aims. When this communication exists it creates and maintains parents' commitment to homework, which is vital if homework is to aid the child's development.

Homework should not, and need not interfere with other beneficial activities that children may do after school.

At Hemingbrough Community Primary School...

We use a homework diary to record homework which also includes help, advice and support for children and parents/Carers.

We expect all children to complete homework tasks or activities on time.

Homework should be well presented.

Whilst we encourage parents/carers to support and assist where necessary, activities and tasks should usually be completed independently.

Homework diaries should be signed weekly by parents/carers

Where homework is not completed or is not completed to the satisfaction of the teacher a note will be made in the diary and may be followed up with a discussion with the child or parent/carer or a letter.

In exceptional circumstances it may be difficult for homework to be completed. In these cases parents/carers should inform the school. It will then be possible to agree additional time or support for completion.

Not all homework will be marked or returned.

The purpose of homework

Homework should develop an effective partnership between the school and parents and other carers.

Homework should consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding - particularly in English and Maths.

Homework should extend/compliment school learning.

Homework should exploit different resources for learning at home or through outside agencies.

Homework should encourage pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and 'self discipline' needed to study on their own, thus preparing them for the requirements of secondary school.

Homework should **not** consist of finishing off exercises from class sessions.

How long should be spent on homework?

The Government no longer offers guidelines relating to homework. At Hemingbrough CP we feel the following time scales are appropriate:

Years 1 and 2	no more than 1 hour per week
Years 3 and 4	no more than 1.5 hours per week
Years 5 and 6	no more than 30 minutes a day

What activities can homework include?

Years 1 and 2	reading (including books / comics etc. at home), spellings, other English work and Maths work, occasional tasks in other areas
Years 3 and 4	English and Maths as for Years 1 and 2 with some activities in other subjects
Years 5 and 6	continued emphasis on English and Maths but also ranging more widely over the curriculum
All Year groups	Homework menu once per term

Homework Activities

Homework will reflect the age, ability and developmental stage of differing children. However the following will apply to the majority of children.

Key Stage 1

Within Key Stage One the foundation of the child's learning habits are established. Homework will consist of short activities – for example learning number facts (KIRF's) and weekly spellings. However, the majority of homework in Key Stage One will consist of regular reading and book sharing.

Key Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4)

Homework in these two years will continue to focus on English and Maths (KIRF's). Spellings will continue to be given on a weekly basis. Reading however will still form the cornerstone of the child's homework. Hesitant readers will still need support from parents, more fluent readers should be encouraged to read for themselves and to take responsibility for changing and choosing the books they read.

Other activities / tasks may also be set, these often run over a given period of time, allowing the child time to consult appropriate information sources.

Key Stage Two (Years 5 and 6)

English and Maths tasks will continue to form the basis of the child's homework. Spellings will be given.

Some children will require parental support with their reading. The vast majority of the children will be expected to select their own reading books from either school or home independently. Research questions relating to other areas of the curriculum may be set. Time will be allowed for the children to research answers using a variety of sources.

In addition as SATs approach, children in Year 6 will also bring home practice papers in Reading and Maths.

As new technologies arise, homework activities will often take advantage of ICT based opportunities.

Children with additional needs may also bring home a target card to help support learning. All pupils will be encouraged to value and complete homework.

This policy will be reviewed in Nov 2019