

# Literacy Homework Policy

- Homework should generally provide the opportunity to reinforce or practice work already covered in class or to be part of research for a topic or project.
- Children should only be set homework in relation to work in the curriculum and topics being covered which they can complete by themselves or with minimal help. Homework should be differentiated according to the abilities of the child.
- Children should have all the resources they need to do their homework.
- Parents will be informed of the schools expectations of homework via the identification of learning objectives / outcomes.
- Parents will be asked to oversee their child's homework and indicate their involvement by initialling completed work.
- Staff will set homework for children who take holidays in school time to ensure they do not fall behind in their progress and understanding.
- Homework should be satisfying and positive.
- Homework should establish and support the development of study habits that last throughout the whole of their education.
- Homework should develop self-discipline and independence, by providing the children the opportunity to work to deadlines.

## Homework requirements

Children are encouraged to take books home for homework tasks as indicated below. All books taken from school should be treated with respect and returned to school in good condition, by the specified date. Parents/Carers should record if they have helped their child with homework as this can identify if he/she requires more support with concepts in school.

## Other Homework

From time to time children will be requested to carry out research tasks for various subjects or may be asked to complete work at home. Parents are asked to oversee this work and give encouragement to ensure its completion.

## Reading

We encourage parents/carers to read with their child/children at home as often as possible. For most of their primary years (and particularly in the very early stage) parents should actively listen to their children read every day, (small amounts frequently) and discuss the content of the story text.

Even when children become more independent, fluent and competent readers parents still need to be involved in monitoring their child's progress. Many children and parents enjoy reading sessions and there is no reason why in cases such as this, children should not continue to read aloud to parents. However, it may be sufficient for parents to briefly question or comment on their child's book eg: what does the author mean when using the phrase .....

If parents are unsure of the stage their child is at – they should seek guidance from their child's teacher or refer to the printed statement included in the child's reading diary to support parents/carers ability to ask pertinent questions.

### Reading Booklets

The reading diary should be returned to school each day with their book. Parents are asked to sign and date this book after each home reading session. Comments are also welcome. We seek parents' cooperation in this matter as assurance that a child has:

1. taken the book home
2. read what is stated

Progressing through the scheme is not a race. Parents and children should not expect to have a different book each day. Sometimes it is necessary for a child to repeat a book to make sure of unfamiliar words. If a child has enjoyed a book there is no reason why she/he should not read it again. All children will develop at different rates – there should be no element of comparison between individual pupils.

### Spellings

Spellings are introduced at an appropriate stage throughout the school and are linked to the year group and phonic stage each child is in. Every child has a spelling book and spellings to learn are written in by the children and checked by the teacher. As part of learning how to spell children complete activities linked to dedicated programmes eg: Jolly Phonics, Big Cat Phonics, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (GAPS)

### School Books

It has always been the policy of this school for children to take books home. In recent years we have encouraged the safe keeping of school books in the green Reading Folders (available to purchase from school). We should emphasise how important it is that children should treat these and all books with care.

We ask parents to make sure that all books taken home are kept in the Reading Folders and returned to school each day.

Date of Policy – March 2016

Next review date – March 2018

Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Head Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_