

# Hunmanby Primary School

## Homework Policy

### Introduction

Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Regular homework is important, since it gives pupils the opportunity to practise at home the tasks done in class, and helps them work towards improving important skills. It also encourages children to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help throughout their time at school and, later, in adult life.

Homework refers to any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents.

Homework activities are an important part of the home/school partnership.

All children are expected to take part in a variety of homework tasks to enhance and support their work in class.

The homework policy is designed to:

- ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility.
- ensure parents/carers have a clear understanding about expectations for themselves and the pupils.
- extend and support learning.
- provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work in partnership and enjoy learning experiences.

Throughout the school, daily reading, either with parents or individually, will form the main content of homework.

For children in the **Foundation Unit**, homework will consist of reading, learning letter sounds and practicing tricky words.

For children in **Key Stage 1**, homework will mainly consist of daily reading with parents, (about 10 minutes). They will also have spellings to learn *and/or* number activity each week.

Children in **Years 3 and 4** will have daily reading, (10 - 15 minutes), a weekly spelling list *and/or* a weekly number activity. They will also have an occasional topic assignment.

Children in **Years 5 and 6** will have a regular weekly schedule of reading, (15 - 20 minutes daily), literacy (including spelling) *and/or* mathematics, together with occasional topic assignments.

Time Allocation:

Foundation Stage      10 minutes a day

Years 1 and 2	1 hour a week
Years 3 and 4	1.5 hours a week
Years 5 and 6	2.5 hours a week

It is expected that, up to Year 4, parents will work with and support children when they are doing their homework. From Year 5 onwards, children will be expected to do their homework on their own. This will help them prepare for the demands of secondary education.

Every effort will be made to ensure that homework set is appropriate for individual children, and does not demand too much or too little from children and their parents. However, homework tasks will normally be easier than those undertaken in class.

Parents are expected to provide feedback on reading by writing in the reading booklet, and on number activities by making a comment on the worksheet or on a response sheet, if this is provided.

**How staff support this policy:**

- by providing a range of homework tasks and activities to consolidate and extend learning in class;
- by ensuring that children have a clear understanding of the tasks involved and a common understanding of the high expectations held of them individually, according to their ability;
- by communicating with parents and keeping them informed of children's progress, projects and topics to be studied, and their child's individual targets.

**How parents can help to support children:**

- provide somewhere peaceful for children to work without the distractions of television, other family members and pets;
- provide a suitable place, equipped with a comfortable chair, clear table space, good light as well as pencils, pens, rubbers and other equipment;
- provide encouragement and support to children when they require it;
- support the school in explaining to children that homework is valued and aids learning;
- encourage pupils and praise them when homework is completed;
- be actively involved in the homework of younger children in particular;
- sign and date their child's homework when they are satisfied that it is of an acceptable standard.

**Pupils are expected to:**

- make full use of all the opportunities they are presented with;
- tackle home tasks promptly and with a positive attitude;

- take pride in presentation and content, acknowledging the high personal standard expected;
- be organised so that necessary books and equipment are not left at school;
- take responsibility for handing in the completed task on the agreed day.

### **Feedback for pupils, parents or carers and teachers**

It is important that feedback is given to pupils as quickly as possible. This is given in a number of ways:

- immediately by parents or carers;
- discussion in class where homework is a part of the class work;
- through tests such as tables or spellings;
- individual comment from teacher on written assignments;
- pupils reviewing the work done in small groups;
- presentation of homework in class and school assemblies;
- rewards in Celebration Assembly for children who regularly complete homework;
- Parents evenings and consultations.

Teachers are interested to know how children carried out activities, whether they were too hard/ too easy/ interesting, etc. The homework diary/reading record book is an ideal place for parents, carers and teachers to record any comments. Parents may also comment on whether the time allocation was appropriate or whether the activity was too short/too long. As with all school activity, parents are invited to discuss any queries with their child's class teacher.

This policy will be reviewed in May 2020