



COBHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Caring, Proud, Successful!

HOMework POLICY

Homework is seen as one of the principal ways in which pupil engagement can be raised. The benefits of doing age and ability appropriate homework needs to be instilled at an early age in all pupils so that a positive work ethic and attitude is developed.

The aim of the Cobham Primary's Homework Policy is to:

- enable pupils to understand that independent learning is exciting, interesting and can be a vital part in achieving success
- give every pupil the opportunity to fulfil their potential and share often unknown interests and talents
- instil in all pupils the importance of life-long learning
- aid pupils in the planning & organisation of their time as they move through their learning journey prior to the transition to Year 7
- promote a responsibility for learning within each pupil.

Purpose of Homework

There are various reasons for setting homework, examples of which are:

- 1) to allow opportunities to reinforce, extend and consolidate learning experiences
- 2) to give pupils experience of working on their own, and to develop in pupils a sense of responsibility and commitment to their own learning
- 3) to involve parents/carers as partners in education
- 4) to further challenge and extend gifted and talented children.
- 5) to provide focused, differentiated and sustained support for less able pupils

Principles Underlying Homework Policy

- 1) Students must take full responsibility for their homework and should be supported by their parents/carers, but equally have opportunities for independent learning
- 2) Homework should be given in mindful quantities with realistic completion dates
- 3) Should be both clear and reasonable, taking account of home environment and extracurricular activities of pupils, including family and cultural obligations.
- 4) Homework should be a carefully planned and be linked to learning taking place in school.

- 5) Homework should match the needs and abilities of pupils, taking into consideration the individual needs and abilities of every child.
- 6) Homework should promote opportunities for consolidation and extension.
- 7) Homework is related to current work, is both stimulating and challenging for all.

Expectations & Routines of Homework

We are a reading school and take pride in encouraging and nurturing the children's love of books. Our reading challenge is in place for all classes and if a child is heard reading or reads each night; they receive a series of certificates to show their progress. When they reach gold, they are offered the opportunity to have a free book as a prize for their dedication and love of reading.

In addition to this, every child is asked to complete on a weekly basis what we call a 'spelling contract' which is a series of tasks to help the children learn their age appropriate spellings in line with the new National curriculum requirements in this area.

Tasks such as:

- writing the spellings without the vowels
- counting the syllables
- finding definitions
- placing the spellings into sentences
- copy them out 3 times each
- asking a partner to test you

Spellings are shared on a Monday and a test takes place either on a Friday or the following Monday. The spelling contract is looked at on a Friday to ensure that tasks have been completed. Children are often provided with an additional weekend to complete any unfinished tasks and where necessary, a retest on a Monday might take place. These spellings are shared on a daily basis within class work to support the learning of them.

Additional age related expectations

Reception Class

One piece of homework set on a Friday and due in on a Wednesday lasting up to 20 minutes based on prior learning.

Class 1

Maths homework based on what the children have been learning in class during the week. This is set on a Friday and is due in at the latest on Wednesday and should last up to 20 minutes.

Class 2

A short SPAG task reviewing concepts already experienced in class lasting up to 30 minutes

A Maths learning task consolidating learning experienced during the week set lasting up to 30 minutes.

Class 3

A short maths task reviewing concepts already experienced in class lasting up to 30 minutes.

A Maths, English or Foundation based task lasting up to 30 minutes.

Class 4

A short maths task reviewing concepts already experienced in class lasting up to 30 minutes.

A Maths, English or topic based task, lasting up to 40 minutes.

Class 5

A maths task reviewing concepts already experienced in class lasting up to 40 minutes.

An English or topic based task, lasting up to 40 minutes

Class 6

A maths task reviewing concepts already experienced in class lasting up to 40 minutes.

A SPAG task reviewing concepts already experienced in class lasting up to 40 minutes.

An English or topic based task, lasting up to 40 minutes.

Evidencing homework completion

It is an agreed principle that records of completion or homework are recorded and shared with parents during pupil progress meetings. Completion of homework is

celebrated and rewarded with individual house points being given as well as Class Ticks (which work towards Golden Time) for whole class completion of homework tasks.

Children will always be given an additional day in the first instance to complete homework tasks as we are fully aware and support the outside school interests and talents of all of our children. We are aware that family situations can be diverse and that children may struggle to find quiet time some evenings to complete such activities.

School doors are open from 8.45am and children always have the opportunity to utilise the 15 minutes before school officially starts to complete the remainder of any homework tasks. If children ask to have additional support at playtimes or lunchtimes, teachers or teaching assistants are always on hand to provide this support.

Regular lack of completion of homework tasks can result in a 15 minute detention with the Head and during this time, any homework unfinished will be completed.

Signed by Chair of Governors, Kate Cresswell