



Homework Policy

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Reviewed:
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Policy Amendments:

Review Date	Detail

“Learning at home is an essential part of the good education to which all our children are entitled.....A good, well organised homework programme helps children and young people to develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful, independent lifelong learning.”

Sunnyside Academy’s aim is to create a secure, happy caring environment within which children will grow and learn. Children will receive a broad, balanced curriculum, which is designed to motivate children to achieve their potential regardless of their individual abilities.

The role of parents/carers and homework is critical to the achievement of this aim.

Homework is not a statutory requirement of schools but it is defined by DFE as:

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

Children in Sunnyside Academy will be set homework from the start of their school life. In the beginning this will be minimal and really involve families working, **and playing**, together to encourage children’s learning. Homework will gradually increase as children get older and we prepare them for transfer to secondary school.

Homework will follow a set pattern and routine. This allows all concerned - pupils, parents/carers and staff - to plan and complete work systematically. Throughout the school the homework set will be heavily weighted towards the acquisition of English and Maths skills. Other curriculum subjects (Science, History etc.) may also be set as homework as children become older.

The school endorses the view that children of all ages should take part in short daily reading activities at home. Even on the evenings when other subjects are set Sunnyside staff and Governors would recommend that parents/carers either:

- **Spend some time reading to their child.**
 - **Listen to their child read.**
- Or**
- **See that their child spends some time reading alone.**

All homework tasks, regardless of pupil’s age or ability, need to be challenging, yet achievable. For example, tasks may include:

- Learning high frequency “key words” and spelling patterns.
- Learning number patterns/bonds/tables.
- Reading a passage of text in preparation for class lessons.
- Investigative work.

Any homework set needs to be differentiated to meet the needs of individual pupils. It is the class teacher’s responsibility to ensure homework is appropriate to pupil need.

The school would encourage parents and carers to take an active part in their child's homework – **but not do it for them!**

SPELLINGS :

- Weekly spellings will be given to each pupil in Y1 – Y6 pupils every Friday. These spellings will be matched to the learning focus within class.
- Pupils will be expected to know and use these spellings in context the following week. Rewards will be given for effort and application. There will also be spelling quizzes and tests every Friday.
- Reception pupils will bring 'sound books' and 'action' words home to learn each week and may also be asked to practice letter formation.

MATHEMATICS (in addition to reading and spelling)

- Pupils in Reception will occasionally be expected to practice counting objects at home or correctly forming their numbers.
- Year 1 and Year 2 will be required to complete basic mathematics work every 2 weeks, such as number bonds, finding shapes around the house, multiplication facts.
- Pupils in Year 3 and 4 will be required to complete 1 short piece of mathematics homework per week. This will be linked to knowing number facts (multiplication, division, number bonds) or linked to topics of study such as measure, shape, data handling and possibly number bonds or tables.
- Pupils in Year 5 & Year 6 will be required to complete 1 or 2 pieces of additional homework each week depending upon the task. Some research and formal recording may be expected for some tasks.
- Revision booklets and tasks will be given to Y6 pupils to complete across the year.

Homework may be given during holiday periods.

FAILURE TO HAND IN HOMEWORK

We expect completed homework to be given in on time each week. Homework is to be handed in by Thursday the following week. This gives pupils valuable experience of working to dead lines and facilitates staff with their marking schedules. If homework is not given in at the appropriate time then action is taken:

- The class teacher will have a discussion with the pupil to find out if there are good reasons for the failure to hand in the work;
- Homework will be given again for completion.
- The class teacher will provide any advice or support to the completion of work.
- A homework club will run at break time each Thursday and it can be completed in Breakfast Club time.
- The HT will contact parent/carers for persistent none completion of homework.
- Records will always be kept for each pupil.

Praise will be given to pupils who consistently try hard with the regular completion of their homework and may be acknowledged in achievement assembly held every Friday.