

Asfordby Captains Close County Primary School

HOMework POLICY



Responsibility for Review: Teaching team, SLT, Advisory Board

Period of Review: 3 years

Date of Last Review: February 2018

Date of Next Review: February 2021

Saxelby Road, Asfordby, Melton Mowbray, Leics LE14 3TU

Tel: 01664 812630

Email: office@dsatcaptainsclose.org

Website: www.captains-close.leics.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs J Hancock

INTRODUCTION

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

We consider homework to be important for the following reasons.

- It allows parents and/or carers to share areas of learning and to support and reinforce these.
- It supports children in consolidating and further developing their knowledge and skills of both the national and extended curriculum.
- It further extends the home/school partnership. When parents and families are involved in their children's schools, research supports evidence that children achieve more better and have better feelings about going to school. In fact, many studies show that what the family does is more important to a child's school success than how much money the family makes or how much education the parents have.

We ensure a gradual increase in the use of homework to match both the development of children's abilities and their increasing capabilities of producing more focused work.

Homework may include extensions or online dedicated activities to ensure an appropriate level of challenge for the child.

Half-term homework includes a topic/project approach rooted in our character traits and learning behaviour characteristics that allows children (and families) to decide on the depth of their study, the ability to develop a range of skills such as organisation and the flexibility of approach and presentation of their work. This reflects our approach to learning in school where children are encouraged to learn, and present learning, in a variety of styles. They are encouraged to organise themselves, make decisions around their learning and consider the best way to present their learning.

One of the most important aspect of the homework is that it is the child's work. Inevitably children may need some support to complete their work and it is expected that adults at home will offer assistance without completing the work for the child, but we seek to give parents the chance to engage in their child's learning. We aim for homework to be a positive experience.

Whilst we cannot make homework compulsory, it is a national expectation that schools give out homework and that children complete and return their homework appropriately. If children are unable to complete their homework at home then they will be given opportunities, in their own time, to complete it at school homework club.

Reception

During the first term at school, children are given a homework book and asked to complete some homework per week. Reading books and a reading record in a planning book also go home along with the lists of high frequency words and phonics support where applicable.

Key Stages 1 and 2

The quantity and expectation of quality will increase as the children proceed throughout the school. All children are expected to practise reading, spellings and times tables as well as complete their homework.

Homework encompasses a range of curriculum skills, and seeks to embed key English and Maths skills as well as foster independence and perseverance. Age appropriate tasks support parents understanding key expectations at their Year group.

The amount of time that the children are expected to devote to homework should be considered at age appropriate expectations. Teachers do not compare any child's project against another's as the abilities and levels of interest vary between children, however the quality and effort is expected to reflect the ability of the child.

Spellings

Spellings are sent home for weekly spelling tests linked to letters and sounds and Curriculum 2014 year group targets. We also teach the children spelling and grammar strategies in school in order to develop their knowledge of spellings. Children can access online support to supplement their understanding. Regular homework will reflect key expectations and in-class learning.

Reading

Children have a reading book and have access to library books and are encouraged to read regularly at home. Children should also read a wide range of text types, including newspapers, as part of their reading practice. We aim to encourage the children to use our library regularly to select books.

Times Tables

All children need to practise their tables, and other number facts, so that they can recall them quickly. Timetables are set through the school according age-related expectations and Curriculum 2014 requirements.

All children's progress will be monitored through both informal and formal testing.

Year 6

There are additional arrangements for year 6 children, and year 5 as they transition to Year 6.

- Children attending booster classes may be given homework on the areas being covered as needed.
- The workload will increase throughout the year to prepare the children for SAT's and secondary transfer.
- Children will be signposted to online activities and revision materials to support their independent study skills.

Additional Homework

From time to time specific children, for specific reasons, may be given extra homework. This may include spellings, work related to 'catch-up' or extension programs or even work requested by the child or their family.

Register

Each teacher keeps an up to date register of homework tasks and completion dates.

Well -produced homework will be rewarded through normal school procedures in recognition of learning behaviours and character traits and staff will deal with any problems concerning the non -completion of homework. There is an expectancy that all children will do their best work in completing their homework and that homework will be completed on time.