



# Homework Policy

Reviewed: February 2023

# **HOMEWORK POLICY**

## **Introduction**

Homework refers to any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside the normal school day, on their own or with parents / carers. Homework can encompass a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers to support learning

## **Rationale for homework**

Homework is widely accepted as an essential and valuable element of learning, adding much to a child's development.

The Government made a clear commitment to homework in the 1997 White Paper, "Excellence in Schools", where homework was seen as "an essential part of good education."

Research over a number of years has shown that homework can make an important contribution to pupils' progress at school and therefore assist in the raising of a child's level of attainment.

We also acknowledge the important role of play and free-time in a child's growth and development. Homework should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations that play an important part in their lives.

## **Aims and Objectives**

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- To enable children to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
- To help pupils to develop the skills of an independent learner
- To help children develop good work habits for the future and preparing them for the requirements of Secondary school
- To consolidate and reinforce the learning that has taken place in school
- To allow children to practice skills taught in the lesson
- To enable all aspects of the curriculum to be covered in sufficient depth
- To provide educational experiences not possible in school
- To promote a partnership between home and school in supporting the child's learning

## **The Role of Parents**

At Oasis Academy Ryelands, we recognise that the development of the whole child is a partnership and that children can benefit greatly from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. In fact, we consider homework as an important way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents. For homework to be effective, schools need to be able to count on parental involvement and support. At the beginning of each term, the parents will receive a newsletter giving information on the half term's topic. Parents are encouraged to use the information to support their child's learning. An overview of homework activities for the half term is also included to allow parents to see the bigger picture of learning and to preview the learning that is yet to come.

We ask that parents:

- Offer encouragement to their children
- Discuss the requirements of the set task
- Offer help and support for the tasks set
- Provide a suitable environment for the completion of homework tasks
- Provide suitable tools and equipment that allow for good presentation
- Assist their children in accessing suitable resources and materials, possibly by visiting the library or using the Internet
- Offer praise or constructive criticism for the finished product
- Sign and date the completed homework, adding relevant comments where and when applicable
- Ensure that homework is handed in on time - Wednesday
- Supply a valid reason, in writing, as to why the homework task has not been completed
- Contact the class teacher if they have any problems or queries about homework that has been set
- General issues about homework should be addressed to the Principal

## **The Type and Amount of Homework**

All homework, apart from research, will reflect what the children have been learning throughout the week. We have general open-ended tasks from Years 1-6 and Reception from the Spring Term.

### **Nursery and Reception**

Reading to your child daily

Phonic activities

Number activities

### **Year 1 and 2**

Alternate open-ended Literacy and Numeracy tasks. One week Numeracy will be recorded, and Literacy will be for discussion and then it will be swapped round the following week. The spelling words are also included and correlate to assignments set, by the class teacher on Spelling Shed.

### **Year 3 and 4**

Each week the children will be given open ended Literacy and Numeracy tasks. The spelling words are also included and correlate to assignments set, by the class teacher on Spelling Shed.

### **Year 5 and 6**

Each week the children will be given two open ended tasks that could include Literacy, Mathematics, Topic or Science.

We do not put a time limit on the homework as each child is different. Your child will have a clear expectation on what is expected from them when the homework is given out. The spelling words are also included and correlate to assignments set, by the class teacher on Spelling Shed.

### **Homework given out**

Homework is given out for the whole school on a Friday.

### **Homework handed in**

Homework is collected in for the whole school on a Wednesday. It is expected that your child will write a comment about what they thought of the task or how they got on.

Parents are expected to sign to say they have seen the homework. Parents are encouraged to write a comment.

From 9 – 9:25 every class will look at the home learning that has been going on. The teacher will focus on creativity, presentation, effort, etc. to motivate and encourage all pupils. The children will have the opportunity to peer mark their partners' home learning. The teacher will then collect all the books in and mark them and write a comment.

### **Pupils with Special Educational Needs**

Homework that is set comprises of open-ended activities that meet the needs of all children.

### **Study Support Facilities**

For those children experiencing difficulty in completing their homework, we will provide a Homework Mentoring / Study Club.

### **Monitoring and Review**

The efficiency and effectiveness of the homework policy needs to be monitored and evaluated. Periodically homework sampling will take place to ensure that the policy is being successfully implemented. There should also be consideration for the contribution the policy makes to improving the progress of pupils at school and their attitude to learning.

The policy will be reviewed in September 2021 and the views of parents will be sought at this time.

Its effectiveness will be assessed by:

1. The quality of the home/school partnership in supporting children's learning
2. The progress of children and their attitude to learning
3. Children's commitment to and enjoyment of the homework tasks
4. Year 6 pupils' smooth transition into Secondary School and their ability to cope with the demands of the homework timetable