



Homework Policy 2023-2024

This policy has been impact assessed, during the annual review, in the light of all other school policies and the Equality Act 2010.

Adopted	Meeting	Minute Number
Full Governors	27 09 2023	12/09.23
Reviewed	Change / Amendments	Date of Approval /Meeting

Review to be completed: Annually

Swanwick Primary School



Homework Policy 2023-2024

The Department for Education requires all schools to have a written homework policy that gives guidance to both teachers and parents about what is expected of them on a weekly basis. Homework is defined as 'any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents'.

The aims of this policy

- a) To ensure a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- b) To ensure that teachers, parents and children have a clear understanding regarding expectations for homework.
- c) To ensure that teachers, parents and children are fully aware of the role they play with regard to homework.

The purpose of homework is

- a) to develop an effective partnership between the school and parents in pursuing the aims of the school
- b) to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding particularly in English and Maths
- c) extend school learning through additional reading and phonics
- d) to encourage pupils as they grow older to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own prior to transferring to secondary school.

The main focus of homework will be on English and Maths. It is very important that books and materials taken home should be returned the following day so that no disruption to lessons occurs. It is vital that homework is handed in on the allocated day.

How much time should be spent on homework?

A rough guideline to the amount of time recommended for homework is as follows. The time should be spread over the week. Little and often is the best policy for reading, learning spellings, number facts and times tables. Reception and Y1 should undertake roughly 1 hour of homework per week, Year 2 should take roughly 1 hour and 15 minutes per week, Y3 and Y4 should undertake 1 ½ hours per week and Y5 and Y6 should have approximately 2 hours per week.

The role of the school

- To provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework.
- To ensure this policy is fully and consistently followed.
- To provide support for parents with information about homework.
- To provide support for children with homework.

The role of the teacher

- To plan and set a programme of homework that is appropriate to the needs of the child.
- To ensure all children understand the homework they have been given.
- To mark where appropriate and give feedback about homework.
- To be available to talk to parents and children about homework.
- To inform parents if there is a problem regarding homework.

The role of the parent

- To support the child in completing homework.
- To ensure the child completes homework to a high standard and hands it in on time.
- To provide the appropriate conditions for the child to complete the homework.

The role of the child

- To ensure they have everything they need to complete homework each week.
- To make sure they understand the tasks that have been set.
- To put in the same level of effort as would be expected of class work.
- To hand the homework in on time.
- To take on board any feedback about homework.

Homework in Foundation Stage

- Homework packs will be sent home daily. These will include sound books to learn groups of sounds, progressing to picture and word books linked to our phonics scheme.
- Home to school communication will be via Tapestry.
- Sometimes teachers might request items linked to our topics via Tapestry e.g. Family Photos.
- Parents/Carers and children are encouraged to share reading books together on a daily basis.

Reading in foundation stage

Parents will be informed of the themes that the children are learning in school each half term via the Swanwick Story and on the school website.

Starting in the Autumn term, and continuing all year, the main emphasis is on reading at home. This should be done in two ways:

- **Adults reading to children.**

Parents are encouraged to use the Library and other school books: these provide books that are suitable to read to children so they can get used to print and stories. Parents should encourage children to point to words as they are being read. Discussion about the books is also important.

- **Children reading to an adult.**

When they are ready to, children will start bringing simple books home to read to an adult. Again, encouraging the child to point to the words as they are being read is important. Discussing the story and the characters and asking questions about the book will help with the child's understanding of language. Look for new vocabulary and discuss the meaning: it can be helpful to create an action linked to a new word.

Homework in Year 1

Homework is given out on a Monday and will be collected in the following Monday.

- Each child has a simple homework pack in Year 1 containing weekly phonics reading books.
- Words are listed in the back of the reading books to learn at home.
- Following termly phonics assessments, we will use Tapestry to communicate any gaps in sounds that could be practiced at home alongside some activities building towards the Phonics Screening Check.
- Parents/carers and children are encouraged to share reading books together daily. Please record any reading carried out in their reading diary. This can be when reading a school book or when reading a different book from home.
- We will be launching 'Numbots' online to support children's mathematical fluency. This will be set as home learning weekly.
- Some children may receive comprehension tasks or additional books once they have completed the Phonics Scheme.

Homework in Year 2:

Homework is given out on a Monday and will be collected in the following Monday.

- Each child has a simple homework pack in Year 2 containing weekly phonics reading books.
- Words are listed in the back of the reading books to learn at home.
- Children who have completed the Phonics Scheme will receive a banded reading book each week.
- Parents/carers and children are encouraged to share reading books together daily. At times some children may have a book review to complete.
- We will be launching 'Numbots' online to support children's mathematical fluency. This will be set as home learning weekly.

Reading in Year 1 and 2

Reading on a regular basis is vital when children are in year one and two. Children will bring their reading books home every evening and the role of the adult is to listen and support them. It is important to remind them to use different strategies to read new words, sounding out the word, looking at the pictures and looking for words within words are ways in which the child can read an unknown word. Just as important is discussing the book to check that the child has understood what they have read. Children will have a reading record which parents/carers should sign or comment in each time they read with the child.

Homework in Key Stage 2 (Year 3, 4, 5 and 6)

Homework in Year 3

Homework is given out on a Friday and must be returned on a Wednesday.

- Children each have a homework folder.
- Parents/carers and children are encouraged to share reading books together daily. Please record any reading carried out in their reading diary. This is to include anything they are reading including magazines.
- 1 Maths activity linked to current learning
- 25 Spelling Bee words sent out at the start of every half term, to be learned at home.
- Spelling Shed homework will be sent once a week online.
- 2 sessions of TT Rockstars to be completed at home each week

If children are unable to access online learning at home, please see the class teacher for an alternative version.

Homework in Year 4

Homework is given out on a Friday and must be returned on a Wednesday.

- Children each have a homework folder.
- Parents/carers and children are encouraged to share reading books together daily. Please record any reading carried out in their reading diary. This is to include anything they are reading including magazines.
- 1 Maths activity linked to current learning
- 30 Spelling Bee words sent out at the start of every half term, to be learned at home.
- Spelling Shed homework will be sent once a week online.
- 2 sessions of TT Rockstars to be completed at home each week

If children are unable to access online learning at home, please see the class teacher for an alternative version.

Homework in Year 5

Homework is given out on a Friday and must be returned on a Wednesday.

- Children each have a homework folder.
 - Parents/carers and children are encouraged to share reading books together daily. Please record any reading carried out in their reading diary. This is to include anything they are reading including magazines.
 - Mathematics activities or worksheets will be sent home weekly to support work carried out in the classroom.
 - 40 Spelling Bee words sent out at the start of every half term, to be learned at home.
 - Spelling Shed homework will be sent once a week online.
 - 3 sessions of TT Rockstars to be completed at home each week
- If children are unable to access online learning at home, please see the class teacher for an alternative version.

Homework in Year 6

Homework is given out on a Friday and must be returned on a Wednesday.

- Children each have a homework folder.
 - Parents/carers and children are encouraged to share reading books together daily. Please record any reading carried out in their reading diary. This is to include anything they are reading including magazines.
 - Mathematics activities or worksheets will be sent home weekly to support work carried out in the classroom.
 - 40 Spelling Bee words sent out at the start of every half term, to be learned at home.
 - Spelling Shed homework will be sent once a week online.
 - 3 sessions of TT Rockstars to be completed at home each week
- If children are unable to access online learning at home, please see the class teacher for an alternative version.
- At times, children will be given additional homework linked to SATs revision.

Optional Creative Homework each half term- Whole School

All the children will be set a piece of optional homework. This homework is open ended and allows them to work on a creative project. This will be sent out at the start of a new term with a due date in the final week of term.

Creative homework is an opportunity to spend time collaboratively with family.

Why will children sometimes be given alternative homework?

We recognise that for some children with additional needs, we may need to adapt our approach to homework. This will be considered on an individual basis in collaboration with teachers, parents and children.

What about children who don't complete homework?

The expectation is that children will complete homework with the support of their parents. Teachers will keep check of children completing homework and these records will be checked on a regular basis. If there are any problems with children not completing homework then the teacher will speak directly to parents/carers to offer support.

How will the homework be marked?

Teachers will mark children's homework in a variety of ways but always according to the schools marking policy. Generally, the work will be checked and initialled by the teacher to show they have marked it. On other occasions the work may be marked orally with the child or the class and there will not be evidence from the teacher in the child's book. At Swanwick Primary School, considerable emphasis is placed upon acknowledging, celebrating and praising good work. Awards may be given for homework by the class teachers and during our weekly Celebration Assembly.

Review

This policy has been agreed by Staff and Governors of Swanwick Primary School and will be reviewed every year by the staff in consultation with the Governors.

Signed:

Headteacher _____

Chair of Governors _____

Date: September 2023