



Collingwood Primary School Homework Policy

The Governors and staff of Collingwood Primary School believe that homework is an important aspect of a child's education. It encourages children to realise that learning can take place outside the classroom and promotes independent learning, thus encouraging the child to take greater responsibility for their own progress. Homework allows parents, carers and the school, to work in partnership for the benefit of their child.

Aims

Homework is encouraged throughout the school. To be most effective parents, carers, staff and the children, need to understand its purpose.

- It reinforces skills which have been taught in school, particularly in literacy and numeracy and gives children the opportunity to practice and consolidate what they have learnt.
- It encourages self-discipline as the children take responsibility for their learning. Independence in learning is a habit that is most effective when acquired early and will be a necessary skill in adult life.
- It provides opportunities where children have increased access to resources in a 'real-life' context.
- It provides teachers with the opportunity to support and extend individual children.
- It sets standards for life and children become accustomed to working at home, preparing them for secondary school.
- It encourages children to share their learning with parents and carers and understand that learning continues outside of school.
- It encourages parents and carers to become involved with their children's learning and increases pupils' self-esteem and the realisation that their achievements are regarded as important by home and school

Reading

We would hope that all children, including Year 6, read to an adult and discuss the content of texts read *in addition to* the homework set and that reading for pleasure is valued at all times and is not just confined to the total time spent completing homework. This would include fostering early reading skills, where appropriate. We want to promote a love of reading in every child. We encourage parents and carers to discuss their children's books and ask questions about them to ensure that there is understanding of their book as well as accurate reading. Guidance on what to ask a child when reading can be found in a child's yellow reading log book or on their sticker collection bookmark.

Homework Schedule

Homework in English and Maths is given weekly across the school. From time to time, homework may vary in response to a particular activity such as an educational visit, or may be added to, for those children who have not completed the required task in class. All home school books will be collected on Thursdays and kept overnight to be marked by teachers. These will be returned to pupils on Fridays. Parents will be contacted if pupils do not complete homework on any 2 consecutive weeks.

Use of ICT

To further support our children's learning, times tables and weekly spellings. Any child who does not have access to a computer at home can use computers in school to complete homework at break time, lunchtime or after school by arrangement with the class teacher. Those pupils who we are aware of will be offered ICT club after school for up to 5 evenings a week.

Home-School Book

Throughout the school all children will have a home-school book. Spellings, reading comments and homework tasks, passwords etc will all be communicated here.

The role of parents and other carers

Parents are asked to help their children develop positive attitudes to homework by:

- Making sure they have a place to do their homework

- ❑ Checking that they understand what to do
- ❑ Praising them when they try hard
- ❑ Showing their children that they are interested in what they are learning
- ❑ Supporting them in developing the self-confidence to work independently
- ❑ Checking that a good standard of work is maintained.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Curriculum Committee will monitor the implementation of the policy by sampling homework tasks and outcomes from each working group (lower, middle and upper school) on a termly basis.

Homework timings Government guidelines for the amount of homework to be completed at all levels, at the time of writing this policy are:

Years 1 and 2	1 hour per week
Years 3 and 4	1.5 hours per week
Years 5 and 6	30 minutes per day

Reading Records

The teacher or teaching assistant for the class will ensure that reading records have been commented in and signed at least weekly.

Responsibilities

Homework will be planned for and agreed by teachers across each Phase of the school.

All homework will be collected and marked on a weekly basis.

It is our expectation that homework will be completed carefully and on time. If a child does not complete homework teachers will offer opportunities through the week to provide support for children to help them with any homework that is confusing or difficult for children to complete. Parents may enquire about the availability of places at homework club where pupils may complete homework after school. Where homework is frequently missing or not completed, late or of a poor quality, the child's parents or carers will be contacted by the class teacher.

Inclusion and Equality

All children will have access to homework that is relevant to their current stage of learning. Homework will follow the homework timetable for each year group, but be differentiated to provide the appropriate challenge for each pupil.

All children are provided with equal access to homework. We aim to provide suitable learning opportunities regardless of gender, ethnicity or home background

- It reinforces skills which have been taught in school and gives children the opportunity to practice what they have learnt.
- It encourages self-discipline as the children take responsibility for their learning.
- It promotes independent learning.

- It provides teachers with the opportunity to support and extend individual children.
- It sets standards for life and children become accustomed to working at home, preparing them for secondary school.
- It encourages children to share their learning with parents and carers.
- It encourages parents and carers to become involved with their children's learning.

Collingwood Primary School Homework Schedule

Year group	Set	Tasks/Activities/Subject Areas Our expectations are that:
Reception	Weekly	Children will read the key words and initial sounds they have been given and complete a Maths task on alternate weeks. Parents can support their child at home by saying, writing and finding and recognising numbers and letters, finding one more or one less, playing any "turn taking", matching or counting game (available from our lending library), working on the targets given by the teacher at the previous parent consultation evening. This should be at least 10 minutes each night.
Year 1	Weekly	Children will read at least 3 times per week to an adult at home. Children will be set an English or Maths task on alternate weeks and spellings or key words every week. In addition parents can support their child at home by learning number bonds to 10, doubles and halves to 20 (in any order) learning spellings, playing "turn taking" word and number games (available from our lending library), working on targets given by the teacher at the previous parent consultation evening. Homework should be at least 10 minutes each night.
Year 2	Weekly	Children will read at least 3 times per week to an adult at home. Children will be set an English or Maths task on alternate weeks and spellings or key words every week. In addition parents can support their child at home by learning number bonds to 10, doubles and halves to 20 (in any order), learning spellings, playing "turn taking" word and number games (available from our lending library), working on the targets given by the teacher at the previous parent consultation evening. Homework time will be 15 minutes each night.
Year 3	Weekly	Children will read to an adult at home at least twice a week and should be expected to write at least the date and title of the book they have read in their journal. They will learn spellings weekly and complete an English task and a maths task set each week. In addition parents can support their child at home by learning doubles and halves (2 and 3 digit numbers) learning Times tables (not always in order), learning spellings, writing related to their own lives (letters, stories, thank you letters, reports etc), research using non-fiction books or the internet (this could be a school topic or personal interest), working on the targets given by the teacher at the previous parent consultation evening. Homework will be 20 minutes each night.
Year 4	Weekly	Children will read to an adult at home at least twice a week and should be expected to write the date and title of the book they have read in their journal and make a comment about what they have read. They will learn spellings weekly and complete an English task and a maths task set each week. In addition parents can support their child at home by learning doubles, halves and quarters of numbers (2 and 3 digit numbers), learning Times tables (encourage quicker mental recall and using tables known to work out those not yet learned), learning spellings, writing related to their own lives (letters, stories, thank you letters, reports etc), research using non-fiction books or the internet (this could be a school topic or personal interest) Working on the targets given by the teacher at the previous parent consultation evening. Homework will be 20 minutes each night.

Year 5	Weekly	<p>Older Children still need to read aloud to adults at least weekly (encourage expression and ask children to define unknown words and talk about what they have read and understood with an adult) and should be expected to write the date and title of the book they have read in their journal and make a comment about the author's style and use of language and their own likes and dislikes. They will learn spellings weekly and will also complete an English, maths task each week. Occasionally a topic based task stretching over several weeks will be assigned. In addition parents can support their child at home by learning doubles, halves, quarters and fractions of 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers, learning Times tables and division facts (encourage even quicker mental recall and using tables known to work out those not yet learned) convert measures (e.g. minutes and hours, cm and m, g and kg, ml and l etc), learning spellings, writing related to their own lives (letters, stories, thank you letters, reports etc), research using non-fiction books and the internet (this could be a school topic or personal interest, working on the targets given by the teacher at the previous parent consultation evening. www.bbcrevisewise.co.uk is aimed at Year 6 pupils preparing for SATs in English, Maths and Science but many Year 5 pupils also enjoy using this. Homework will be 25 minutes each night.</p>
Year 6	Weekly	<p>Older Children still need to read aloud to adults at least weekly (encourage expression and ask children to define unknown words and read more challenging texts which they may not normally choose, and still need to talk aloud to an adult about the content and effect of what they have read). They should be expected to write the date and title of the book they have read in their journal and make a comment about the author's style and use of language and their own likes and dislikes. Children should be encouraged to write in a similar style. They will learn spellings weekly. They will also complete an English, maths and science based task each week. Occasionally a topic based task stretching over several weeks will be assigned. In addition parents can support their child at home by learning fractions of numbers and percentages, (teach how to find 1% by dividing by 100 then you can find any %) and fractions of 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers, learning Times tables and division facts (encourage even quicker mental recall and using tables known to work out those not yet learned and move beyond 12 x), convert measures (e.g. minutes and hours, cm and m, g and kg, ml and l etc), converting decimals into fractions and back again, learning spellings, writing related to their own lives (letters, stories, thank you letters, reports etc), research using non-fiction books and the internet (this could be a school topic or personal interest, working on the targets given by the teacher at the previous parent consultation evening. <u>Year 6</u> are also given "study books" in English, maths and Science to borrow which contain useful information, quizzes and helpful hints in preparation for SATs. www.bbcrevisewise.co.uk is also excellent for SATs. Homework will be 30 minutes each night.</p>
All Year groups will benefit from:	Not set	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Multiplication Tables by Heart (ask class teachers about our whole school system) • Turn taking games • Games which encourage use of language and questioning e.g. 20 Questions, Who am I?, Eye Spy etc • Board games e.g. Ludo, Snakes and Ladders, Cludo, Monopoly etc • Strategy games and puzzles e.g. Noughts and Crosses, Suduko, Chess, Shut the Box, Mancala, Draughts, wooden shape puzzles etc • Use of appropriate educational websites (See our "Supporting your Child at Home" Page on the VLE using your parent log in) • Practice telling the time • Cooking (practicing accurate weighing and measuring and reading scales and noticing scientific changes) • Reading in the environment (Road signs, shopping etc)
<p>Most importantly of all MAKE IT FUN! Your child will learn so much more by talking and doing than by sitting in front of a worksheet on their own.</p>		