

Whitehall Junior Community School



WHITEHALL JUNIOR COMMUNITY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

Justification

At Whitehall Junior School we believe the support of parents in encouraging their children's learning is an essential part of helping us to achieve our school aims. The setting of tasks for children and parents to complete at home which are carefully structured can provide a vehicle for promoting this type of support and should result in continued mutual benefit to parents and children in the future.

Mission Statement

Our aim is to support and enhance children's learning by enlisting parental support and participation in learning.

We intend to do this by:

1. Offering opportunities for children to practise, reinforce or extend classroom learning.
2. Offering opportunities for children to develop skills for independent learning. There will be a much greater emphasis on individual project work for children as part of the personalised learning initiative.

Principles

1. Home work is for all children.
2. The content will meet one aspect of the aims listed above.
3. Homework will not include tasks not completed in class owing to misbehaviour.
4. Tasks will anticipate a degree of involvement from parents.
5. The setting of work and the monitoring of completed work will be at a manageable level.
6. Homework will be set by individual teachers and pupils will be given adequate time to complete the tasks.
7. Homework needs to be marked and valued.

Year Group and time allocation	Content
Year 3 and 4 11/2 hrs per week	Reading, spelling, number and English activities
Year 5 21/2 hrs per week	Emphasis on reading, spelling, Maths and English but increasingly with individual project work.

Year 6	21/2 hrs per week	As for year 5 but with increased emphasis on KS2 SATs preparation.
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Content

Children are encouraged on a weekly basis to select a book of their choice from the school library to take home. The selection of this book is guided by the child's Star Reading ZPD level.

Spellings should be given each week, which are appropriate to the age and ability of the children.

Maths tasks should be given out twice a week and the needs and abilities of the children need to be taken into account. Maths homework should mainly focus on number and calculation skills. This may involve an online learning activity.

As well as spelling homework, children will have a piece of English homework to complete each week.

Wherever possible, Maths and English homework should be linked to the objectives covered in class that week or consolidate previous learning.

We are increasingly looking to give children in all age groups extended individual project work to undertake. Project work will continue with pupils completing at least one project per year.

Parental Contact

Each child is given two homework exercise books (one for English and one for Maths) in which work to be done is recorded. Children may also use this book to complete work if directed by a member of staff.

The parent and teacher may use this book to communicate with each other.

A reference to supporting the child at home is included in the school's home-school agreement which all parents sign.

There are online learning programmes which children can utilise if they have a computer at home.

This policy will be reviewed as part of the School Policy Review Cycle – annually.