

# Deerhurst and Apperley C of E Primary School



## Homework Policy

Reviewed June 2014

## **Deerhurst and Apperley C of E Primary School**

### **Homework Policy and Guidelines**

#### **Aim:**

To clarify the purpose and distribution of homework across the school.

Although homework is not a statutory requirement at primary school, research has shown that homework makes an important contribution to children's progress. Therefore, at Deerhurst and Apperley C of E School we constantly try to ensure that opportunities are created for each child to achieve the highest standard possible in his or her work. Experience reinforces our view that this is more likely to be achieved when the links between home and school are strong, and when parents support children in their learning. A good example is in reading; without parental help and support in learning key words and developing real interest in books and to promote reading as a pleasurable activity, our task would be much more difficult. When children read with and to their parents regularly, the impact on their learning in school is significant.

#### **Homework:**

- a) Is any work or activity which pupils are asked to do outside their lesson time.
- b) Presents pupils with an opportunity for working on their own.
- c) Presents pupils with opportunities for working with parents or other adults at home.

Homework should extend and develop the curriculum and may relate to work being done in class.

Homework is not necessarily written work and may include puzzles, drafting, drawing, visits to the library, listening to music, interviews, number games, revision, diary work, finding out, learning facts, learning things by heart, model making, working from newspapers or magazines, or topic related work. Weekly homework will always include reading and spelling work for every pupil at Key Stages 1 & 2, and maths for KS1 and KS2.

Homework will normally be set on a weekly rather than a daily basis. This is to ensure that children are not so overburdened on any one evening that they are unable to take part in the many after school activities that are available to them, e.g. ballet, judo, school based clubs, and so on.

Homework will therefore be set as follows:

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Time Guidelines</b>	<b>Type of Homework</b>
<b>Reception &amp; Year 1 &amp; Y2</b>	1 hour per week (average 12 minutes each day)	A selection from: reading book, words for reading/ and or spelling, a maths activity and occasional topic work.
<b>Years 3 &amp; 4</b>	1 - 1½ hours per week (average 12 - 20 minutes each day)	Daily reading for approximately 10 minutes per evening. Spelling. Formal maths and topic based English work on alternate weeks.
<b>Years 5 &amp; 6</b>	2½ hours per week (average approx 30 mins each day)	Daily reading for approximately 10 minutes per evening; brief comments to be recorded in planner. Planners will be checked on Fridays. Spelling/word work; daily learning approximately 10 minutes each evening. Lists will be given in advance and spell checks will be carried out on Fridays. Multiplication tables and related division facts will be tested on Fridays. Weekly maths homework set on MyMaths. Formally set once a week but children are encouraged to use the site regularly to improve their own scores. Approximately 30 minutes per week. English set at the beginning of each term consisting of written tasks related to topic work. Each task has clear success criteria. Tasks to be completed over a two week period. Dates for completion given with each task.

The following principles have also been agreed by all staff:

- The amount and type of homework will be communicated at Parent Information Evenings in September and will be available on the class pages on the school website.

- Spelling and mental maths test scores will be recorded in the planners
- Individual programmes for children with special needs may also be issued.
- Unfinished or unsatisfactory school work may be sent home for completion and this should always be returned to school the next day.
- Whilst we fully expect children to complete their homework, no child will be disadvantaged by not being able to do so on a particular occasion, perhaps because of illness or special circumstance. It would help teaching staff if parents could note such circumstances in the planner. The expectation is that homework will be handed in on the specified return day to allow the class teacher time to mark and return homework in readiness for the next piece. We cannot guarantee that homework will be marked if handed in late.
- Homework Club runs every term and is by invitation only.

### Monitoring and Review

This written policy was drawn up by the Headteacher and staff after consultation at a staff meeting. It will be formally reviewed on a regular basis in accordance with the School Development Plan.

Reviewed by Governors and approved 9th July 2014:

Chair of Governors:

Mrs Cate Morris      Date:

Headteacher:

Pauline McEvoy      Date: