

Sessay CE Primary School

Homework Policy

Introduction

Homework is a valuable way of supporting children's learning, and involving parents in the work that is currently being covered in school. **All children bring home a reading book, and parents are invited to comment on their child's reading in the reading record. We would emphasise the importance of daily reading at home for all ages of children.** From time to time children may also be asked to complete a project or activity, or undertake simple research as part of their work in class. Half-termly maths Space Mission Instant Recall Facts (SMIRFS) are also sent home, with guidance for how to support these – all children have a book which shows progress through these important skills.

Children in the EYFS (Reception year) will bring home their 'learning journey' books which detail their learning and activities during the week, so that parents can share what their child has been doing in and out of school.

From Year 1 upwards children are given homework, generally spellings and/ or maths work. Children may also be asked to bring something into school or to find out a piece of information.

In Key Stage 2 (Y3-Y6) homework is a very important part of supporting children in developing their knowledge, skills, understanding and attitude. A little more will be asked of them, and the children will be able to begin researching and presenting information themselves. With support from home, children will develop additional motivation and study skills that will help them with the primary school curriculum and prepare them to manage the demands of secondary school. Homework is available through the children's planners. We also encourage children to access Mathletics regularly. This is a fun way to independently practice the maths skills we have been working on in class.

Aims

The main aims & benefits of homework are as follows:

- To develop further our links with parents, by helping parents and other carers to understand more clearly what (and how) their children are learning in school
- To give children the opportunity to practice and consolidate their learning, particularly in literacy and numeracy
- To encourage self-discipline and perseverance, and to help children plan the use of their time and develop their independent learning skills
- To develop 'the homework habit' in preparation for secondary school.
- To increase pupils' self-esteem and the realisation that their learning is regarded as important by home and school

Expectations

Homework will be planned as an integral part of the work covered in class. As children progress through the school, there will be a similar progression in terms of the expected levels of homework. All children will have reading books, spellings and SMIRFS (mental maths facts).

As children move into **Years 1 & 2** they will be given one short piece of homework each week.

In **Years 3 & 4** children will have weekly spellings along with one other short piece of homework.

By the time children are in **Years 5 & 6** children will be expected to practise weekly spellings, complete weekly literacy & maths work, and work on their learning logs (independent research).

Completion of homework

Each class teacher is responsible for ensuring that the levels of homework are manageable for children, parents and carers. Homework will be set regularly to help parents and children organise their routine at home. This is particularly important when tasks require children to research information and also takes account of children who are involved in out of school activities. Teaching staff will keep records of completed homework. Where children are finding it difficult to complete homework, opportunities may be found during the school day for work to be finished off.

To support parent, careers and children at home we have developed a page on our website with information to help support learning at home:

<http://www.sessay.n-yorks.sch.uk/curriculum-support/>

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