

Woodhall School - Homework Policy

The purpose of homework:

- to provide opportunities for parents, pupils and the school to work in partnership,
- to help parents gain insight into their child's schoolwork,
- to consolidate, revise or extend skills and understanding ~ particularly in Numeracy and Literacy,
- to encourage pupils as they get older, to develop the independent study skills and self discipline required of them at secondary school,

How much homework will be set?

The following plan offers a guide as to how much homework each year group ought to set per week. It is based on the recommendations set out in the DFEE publication "Homework: Guidelines for Primary and Secondary Schools" Nov 1998).

Weekly homework allocation

R	1 hour per week	Reading Phonics Numeracy
Y1-2	1-1 ½ hours per week	Reading & other Literacy tasks, Numeracy work and occasional topic related work
Y3-4	1½ hours per week	Reading, spellings, Other literacy, Numeracy work and occasional Assignments in other subjects
Y5	2 hours per week	A regular weekly schedule with continued emphasis on literacy / numeracy but also ranging widely across the curriculum.
Y6	2½ hours per week	

Organising their homework

The support of parents would be greatly appreciated for some tasks and ways in which they can help are outlined below. Teachers can present further guidance of 'methods' or 'needs' to help children to achieve their full potential with homework. However, there may be some tasks that necessitate independent completion and the task or weekly sheet will indicate this.

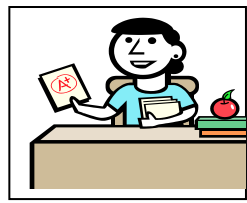


Parents can support their child by:

- asking the child to explain the task, which will indicate correct interpretation of the criteria and by helping the child to organise their approach.
- providing encouragement for their child to complete the task to the best of his/her ability and, for older children, encouragement to complete the task independently.
- establishing a routine to help the child to plan their time and organise themselves to complete the task and return it to school at the correct time.
- praising their child for effort and where necessary independence with completing the task, even if errors were made.
- providing relevant information to the teacher through a visit, telephone call or communication book.
- providing a calm, suitable place in which pupils can do their homework with minimum distraction.
- making it clear to their children that homework is important and by explaining how it can help their learning.
- signing the child's reading record / weekly homework sheet to show that homework has been seen and considered satisfactory.

Teachers will implement the policy by:

- setting the homework programme in accordance with the school policy.
- ensuring that the homework consolidates work planned for this week.
- making tasks and deadlines clear to children.
- using praise and reward where appropriate.
- marking written assignments as promptly as possible. Teachers are only expected to mark work that is handed in on time
- maintaining appropriate records of work completed – these will be monitored by the senior management team.



Pupils are expected to:

- to complete work to a standard of which they are proud.
- to approach homework positively and co-operate with parents and teachers.
- to complete and hand-in tasks on time.
- to care for any homework related books, diaries or equipment.
- to seek help when faced with difficulties.



Special Educational Needs

Children with special educational needs will follow the same content and expectations as other children wherever possible. Where needed the task may be differentiated to allow an individual child to complete the homework. Some tasks might reflect the personal targets that the child has been set in their Individual Education Programme or equivalent.

Homework Folder and reading diary

Foundation Stage children have a reading diary. Staff and parents can write comments in the book.

KS 1 children have a homework book with weekly homework sheets and a reading record, which we encourage parents to fill in as they read with their children

KS2 children have a Homework book with inserted weekly homework sheets. They also have a reading record. As the children become more independent in their reading activities we expect them to fill in their own reading records though parents are still welcome to add their own comments

Homework for the week will be recorded with details of the tasks involved and the date it is expected to be returned by.

If homework is not handed in on time the children will attend Homework Club to enable them to complete outstanding work.

If homework is not done regularly, parents will be informed in writing, using a standard letter. Parents are asked to sign and return the letter. If this fails, parents will be notified by telephone by the class teacher.

Monitoring and reviewing the policy

We aim to review this policy document regularly. Members of the management team will collect a sample of KS2 homework diaries and evaluate the written comments of parents.

We will also consider:

- to what extent the homework programme contributes to pupil progress,
- whether effective home ~ school communication is occurring,
- whether the homework programme is manageable for teachers.

