



***Hoyle Court Primary School believes that every child is a learner and can achieve. Our family ethos ensures that everyone is welcomed, respected and valued. We strive to provide citizens of the future who are able to make a significant contribution to the community and to ensure that they are prepared for life in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Britain.***

POLICY TITLE: <b>Homework Policy / Parent's Guide to Homework</b>		
<b>COMPILED BY:</b> <b>Tim Phillips</b>	<b>DATE APPROVED:</b> <b>11.10.19</b>	<b>DATE TO BE REVIEWED:</b> <b>11.10.21</b>

<b>HOMEWORK the HOYLE COURT Way</b>				
<b>What Homework?</b>				
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
Reading*	Reading*		Reading*	Spelling / Handwriting Mental Maths
<b>Knowledge Organisers</b>				
<b>How Much Time Each Day?</b>				
<b>Reception</b>	<b>Year 1-2</b>		<b>Years 3-6</b>	
5 minutes	10 minutes		15 minutes	

\*please sign your child's reading record on these days

### Policy Aims

We view the purpose of homework as:

- Building an effective and supportive partnership between the school, parents and the wider community in achieving the aims of the school.
- Reinforcing skills and consolidating understanding in all curriculum areas.
- Developing independence and self-discipline through research and study.
- Developing organisation skills to prepare pupils for the demands of their future learning.

### Responsibilities

The role of the Governing Body is to:

- Delegate powers and responsibilities to appropriate committees and to the Head Teacher to oversee this policy.
- Nominate a link governor to support the process of dissemination and review of the policy.
- Oversee the implementation and review of the policy.

The role of the Head Teacher is to:

- Promote this policy by raising its status and importance.
- Ensure that homework is built into teachers planning.
- Provide supportive guidance for parents.
- Keep up to date with new developments with regard to homework.
- Monitor and evaluate this policy.

Parents will:

- Praise the value of homework to their children.
- Provide a suitable space for their child to complete the homework.
- Establish an effective homework routine where appropriate.
- Provide appropriate materials.
- Discuss the homework with their child.

- Contact their child's teacher if they have a concern or question regarding homework.

#### Children will:

- Complete their homework on time.
- Listen to the teacher's instructions carefully.
- Always try their best.

#### Learning

#### Reception

#### Maths

Individual pupil targets / tasks are communicated to parents via the school's online teacher-parent portal 'Tapestry'.

#### Phonics and Reading

New sounds are communicated weekly to parents via 'Tapestry'. Tricky words and high frequency words are sent home and children are tested weekly. Children move on to spellings when they are able to read phase 2-5 tricky words. These are also tested weekly.

#### Key skills (Years 1-6)

#### Reading

- Pupils should aim to read at home a *minimum* of 3 times a week on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, although children are *encouraged* to read at home every day. Pupils will take home at least one reading book to read (at a level appropriate to their reading ability). Alongside this, we also encourage pupils to read a wide variety of books, comics, instruction books, newspapers, instructions and print in the environment.
- Please sign the reading record at the end of each week as evidence your child has done this (reading records are checked by an adult in school). When an adult hears your child read in school, they will also sign it. We would like an adult to hear every child read in school once every two weeks as a minimum.
- We provide a list of National Curriculum 'common exception words' on our website at: [www.hoylecourtprimary.co.uk/our-school-1-1/our-curriculum](http://www.hoylecourtprimary.co.uk/our-school-1-1/our-curriculum).
- Parents are also provided with a set of age-appropriate 'question prompts'.

#### Phonics

- In Key Stage 1 and for some pupils in Key Stage 2, phonic learning may be provided as part of reading homework to help develop children's fluency and reading words by sight.
- We encourage all parents to read to / with their child at bedtime, even in Key Stage 2. This is so pupils have opportunities to hear a range of stories and develop their enthusiasm of reading.

#### Spelling / Handwriting

- This homework is given each Friday. This might include words to learn to spell from the national curriculum 'common exception words' list or to learn spelling patterns. Children are not 'tested' on spellings weekly as research shows this makes little difference to children learning them.

- Children receive a list of spellings each week. They write full sentences including each spelling i.e. a separate sentence for each spelling given.
- Children are expected to write this in their neatest handwriting. Most children will write in joined-up handwriting. If you are unsure whether we expect your child to write in joined-up writing, please ask your child's teacher.
- This work is completed in the child's 'Homework Book' which needs to be returned the following Wednesday.

### **Maths**

- This homework is given on Friday. This could include number fact practice or times tables. These are the essential 'building blocks' of the future. You may choose to practice this in short bursts of time over the week instead of doing this all in one go, as this helps key facts become 'embedded' in the long-term memory.
- Children should regularly have a go at our online timetable challenge on 'Times Table Rock Stars'.

### **Knowledge organisers**

- Each half-term your child will bring home a 'knowledge organiser'. This details the learning which will take place in a range of subjects other than reading, writing and maths (history and geography, for example).
- These organisers contain key facts and vocabulary that we would like the children to learn by heart where possible.

### **Year 6**

- In year 6 pupils will be expected to produce 1 weekly extended piece of writing or maths work. This will be used to support the learning of key skills to ensure they are fully ready for the rigours of secondary school homework expectations, where greater time is expected of pupils on homework.

### **Marking of homework**

Homework brought back into school will be acknowledged by an adult in the form of written or verbal feedback and will also be used to inform future planning.

### **What to do if you have concerns**

If you find homework is inappropriate for your child; if they lack interest or if you have any questions regarding homework please see your child's class teacher in the first instance. Please don't feel you have to 'battle' children alone to complete their homework; we are here to help.

## USEFUL WEBSITE LINKS FOR PARENTS

<http://www.theschoolrun.com/>

A fantastic resource for parents which covers all aspects of the curriculum for each year group and also includes homework help.

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/parents/>

Articles written by practising teachers designed to help with the education of your child.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Advice on keeping children safe on the internet. Useful Homework Websites for additional homework activities.

### Maths Activities

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/maths/timestable/interactive.htm>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<http://www.mathsisfun.com/games/>

<https://www.familymathstoolkit.org.uk/>

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/maths/>

<http://www.maths4mumsanddads.co.uk/>

### English Activities

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

<https://www.spellzone.com/games/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z826n39>

*In addition, the following link to our website offers a range of useful websites and support materials.*

<https://hoylecourt.sites.schooljotter2.com/parental-involvement-1-2-2/homework>