



ENGLEFIELD CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

POLICY FOR HOMEWORK

Sowing the seeds for a flourishing future

Introduction

At Englefield CE Primary School we believe that homework & shared learning should promote a positive link between home and school so we can all do our best to ensure our pupils flourish. Through homework, children can see first-hand home and school working towards common and shared aims in their education. Homework supports and reinforces class learning and helps children become more independent as learners.

Purpose

- To develop an effective partnership between the school and home to support children's learning
- To extend school learning, for example through additional reading
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy
- To encourage pupils, as they get older, to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own, preparing them for the requirements of secondary school.

Homework needs to be a positive experience for all. It should be a time of sharing, talking and discussion. Short activities of different kinds (simple games, learning spellings and number facts and, of course, reading together) provide a very important opportunity for young children to talk about what they are learning to an interested adult, and to practise key skills in a supportive environment which will enable them to flourish.

At Englefield, we use a flexible and creative approach to homework which reflects developments within education and the range of learning styles, for example the use of ICT. Each child in each class will be given a Shared Learning book containing the school guidelines re reading, spellings and times tables practice. Alongside this will be a Shared Learning grid which has a variety of activities for each class topic. Twice every half term (twelve across the year), children will be expected to complete either one of these Shared Learning activities or a self-led task, e.g. a brief write-up of a family day out or a review of their favourite book; they will then have the opportunity to share this with other pupils in the class. This approach will hopefully encourage all children to do something more creative and individual to their tastes and enable them to work on projects with their family. Pupils are encouraged to complete more Shared Learning tasks should they choose to do so.

All completed homework is rewarded with house points to further encourage participation.

In addition to their Shared Learning, pupils in different ages will also be given consolidation work in English and maths. This may be in the form of a spelling list, times tables, a task designed to practise a skill learned in class or a problem to solve using those same skills.

The time that pupils are expected to spend on homework increases as they move through the school; this is partly to prepare them for their move to secondary school.

The Role of Parents and Carers

Research shows that one of the most important factors for good learning is a positive relationship between home and school. We are always delighted by the way our parents support their children's learning at home and we can see the results of this in their attainment and progress.

We would like to encourage parents to:

- value homework, explain to their child how important it is, and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning
- praise and encourage their child to complete and take pride in their homework.
- encourage the use of the computer programmes we provide to develop skills.

The Role of School

- To provide appropriate challenging activities
- To recognise and praise children's efforts
- To provide all children with reading diaries
- To maintain a regular dialogue with parents, through the reading diary when necessary

Class teachers will be responsible for setting and marking homework on a regular basis:

FS2	30 mins per week	Reading & Phoneme Wallet (plus Shared Learning)
Yr 1	45 mins per week	Reading/Phoneme Wallets/'Tricky Words' practice (plus Shared Learning)
Yr 2	1 hour per week	Reading/Phoneme Wallets/'Tricky Words' practice, Times Tables & Maths (plus Shared Learning)
Yrs 3 & 4	1 ½ hours approx per week	Reading, Comprehension, Spellings, Times Tables, Arithmetic (plus Shared Learning)
Yrs 5 & 6	1 ¾ hours approx per week	Reading, Comprehension, Spellings, Arithmetic (plus Shared Learning)

In line with our Home School Agreement, we ask that parents support their child in completing their homework and provide a reasonably peaceful and suitable place in which to work.

Management of Policy

School:	This policy is implemented and managed by the Headteacher and all school teaching staff.
Governing Body:	The Governing Body (led by the Development Committee) will monitor, review and update this policy.
Approved:	Summer 2024
Next Review:	Summer 2026