



EASTFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL **HOMEWORK POLICY – September 2024**

Rationale:

At Eastfield, we believe that homework is an opportunity for parents/carers to become active partners in supporting learning. Homework can help promote a positive attitude to learning at home and show children that home and school are working together in partnership. We believe that homework should be enjoyable for the child and should stimulate imagination and creativity, reinforce lessons taught in school and give the opportunity for applying learned skills. This work will be assessed where appropriate by class teachers, support staff, pupils and peers.

Aims of Homework:

- Give pupils the opportunity to extend their learning in areas of personal interest and stimulate imagination and creativity
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work together, thereby, fostering an effective partnership between home and school
- Ensure a consistent approach throughout the school
- To encourage the development of positive attitudes towards learning among children.

Homework will be broken into two key elements - core homework and family homework. Core homework activities will consist of spellings, times tables, number facts and reading/phonics.

Research has shown that homework has very little impact on the progress children make at primary school unless it is reading and the learning of rapid recall facts. What has the most impact is talking to others, sharing ideas, and exploring concepts. These things cannot be shown through the completion of a sheet but are ingrained in the quality of conversation that is had in the moment and the reflection that comes from that. Our homework policy is now in line with the research that is recommended from the Educational Endowment Foundation which is an independent educational body that supports educational development of all children.

Core Homework:

- Reading - at least 10-15 minutes 3 x per week – Change home reading book once a week.
- Reading for pleasure daily (independently or aloud to a person at home)
- Daily practise of Number Facts / Times Tables /telling the time (as appropriate to year group)
- Weekly spellings
- Family Homework: At least one piece of homework returned after each holiday

Family Homework:

Family Homework invites the children, siblings and parents/carers to spend time together, collaborating and having fun when completing the tasks set. Families will have the opportunity to complete a series of tasks that are sent home at the beginning of each half term. The suggested activities list is not exhaustive; we ask the children to do as many of the suggested ideas as they wish. Families can choose when they do the homework and how this could look so there is flexibility built in for our differing families and all their needs.

Homework Feedback

Feedback will be given to pupils in a number of ways:

- Directly from the teacher in the form of written feedback or verbally
- Peer feedback during sharing/celebration assemblies once a half term.
- Marked tests (spelling/times tables etc)

Pupils with SEND:

We aim to ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of all. We endeavour to adapt any tasks set so that all children can access Core and Family homework that is accessible at their level. When setting homework to pupils who have SEND, we refer, wherever possible, to their Educational Health Care Plans.

Reading:

Children from Reception and Year 1 will take home common exception words. All children from Reception to Year 6 will take home a Rocket Phonics book which will be at the child's level of reading development, as well as a book chosen from the library to support interests they might have or a text they may want to explore. Children have reading records that parents are asked to fill in once a week.

As an additional option, children can log into Reading Planet Online. This provides unlimited access to the digital teaching and learning resources for the programme for children to access at home both independently or with support from an adult.

Where to find the homework:

At the beginning of each term, a class letter will be uploaded to our school website and sent to parents via the SIMS Engagement app. This letter outlines the learning for the term and detail procedures, expectations and times / dates regarding the core and family homework. Specific details of the core and family homework will be uploaded to the school website on the first Friday of each new term.

Expectations for Homework:

- Children should use their book bag to transport their reading books/spelling lists to and from school. The teacher will collect in these books and assess them accordingly and check for parent signatures that support reading at home.
- Family homework will be assessed and handed back to the children; house points may be awarded as positive recognition when appropriate.

Year 6 may also be given additional work to be completed in preparation for their SAT tests in May.

Homework forms part of our Golden Rule 'Be ready to learn and show pride and perseverance in your work'

Completion of homework and consequence: It is an expectation that all children complete core homework and each class teacher keeps a register of completed homework and adds this to Class Charts every Thursday under the relevant pupil > Negative tab> Ready tab > Homework tab (note to be completed of incomplete homework or not returned homework and the date). This helps to monitor children's attitudes and achievement and helps inform discussions with parents.

Monitoring and review

We are aware of the need to monitor the school's Homework policy, and to review it regularly, so that we can take account of new initiatives and research, changes in the curriculum and developments in technology. We will therefore review this policy every two years or earlier if necessary.

Signed: Governing Body

Date: Reviewed September 2024

Review: September 2026