



EASTFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL **HOMEWORK POLICY – September 2022**

Rationale:

Eastfield Primary School is committed to setting regular homework appropriate to the age, needs and experiences of the child. Homework is important at all stages in a child's education and when used properly, it extends the challenge open to the pupil and ensures that teaching time is used to maximise effect. Homework makes a significant contribution to the development of independent learning. Homework refers to any work or activity which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own or with parents or carers. This work will be assessed where appropriate by class teachers, support staff, pupils and peers.

Aims of Homework:

- To support children's learning opportunities via reinforcement and revision, particularly in Maths, English and Science.
- To provide opportunities for parents, pupils and teachers to work in partnership.
- To share with parents the expectations school has regarding their child.
- To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences and to exploit resources for learning of all kinds at home.
- To encourage the development of positive attitudes towards learning among children.
- To equip the pupils, with the self-discipline needed to study on their own, and to prepare them for the increased demands of secondary school homework.

Homework Procedures:

Class letters: 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 theme for the term and details procedures, expectations and times / dates regarding the homework their child will receive during the term ahead.

How to help your child at home: Homework is uploaded weekly to the school website and is explained to children on a Friday when they bring it home. In the Autumn Term, parents can access copies of their child's targets for Reading, Writing, Maths and Science from the school website. In the Spring Term, teachers share with parents 'how to help their child at home' and explain any queries or issues – parents can access this document on 'how to help your child with English and with Maths' again via the school website. In addition, staff will respond to any homework issues via phase email, by telephone or face to face where appropriate, this communication from staff shows their commitment to being approachable, supportive, flexible and reassuring. It is important to note that parent help with homework is very much appreciated, welcomed and beneficial to the child; however, homework is the responsibility of the pupil not the parent aiming to develop pupils' personal responsibility, time management skills and independent study skills for employment later in life.

EYFS: At the new parent's meeting in July, the reading scheme is explained and shown to parents and parents. Pupils will be given a Starting School booklet that will be given to the on their first day to complete at home with their parents/guardians.

How we help pupils complete homework:

The learning style we promote is a supportive culture, enabling pupils to be honest about their difficulties, able to share their mistakes and willing to ask for help. Parents, older siblings, staff, and friends may be involved in helping pupils complete their homework. At Eastfield Primary School, we also place a huge emphasis on 'discovery homework' – where children might be asked to find a word in print e.g., in a newspaper or on the side of a can of food or to collect objects beginning with a particular sound or to create a picture / model – **NOT ALL HOMEWORK SET WILL BE WRITTEN HOMEWORK** and we aim to not overuse worksheets. However, at times we may use a worksheet to consolidate the work learned in class.

Pupils should use their personal responsibility, time management skills and support outlined below to be successful in completing homework.

For Reception Pupils we recommend:

- Pupils should be encouraged to complete their homework and return it to school as soon as possible. Pupils should ask for an adult or older sibling to check / help them complete their homework.
- We expect children to be learning their words or reading on a daily basis for 10-15 minutes.

Additional information about the structure of homework in **Reception:**

- Every child has a homework book where printed homework will be put every Friday, this work can also be accessed via the school website. This will reflect the learning that has taken place in class or will be used

as an assessment tool for learning that will take place. (Spellings will be introduced during the Summer Term to prepare them for transition into Year 1).

- The homework book should be returned to school by the following Thursday, it will be assessed and new homework given back to the child on Friday afternoon.
- Children should use their book bag to transport their homework books to and from school. The teacher will collect in these books and assess them accordingly.
- Work will be assessed and handed back to the children; house points may be awarded as positive recognition when appropriate.

For pupils in **Years 1 – 6** we recommend:

- Every child has a homework book where printed homework will be put every Friday, this work can also be accessed via the school website. This will reflect the learning that has taken place in class or will be used as an assessment tool for learning that will take place.
- Pupils should be encouraged to complete their homework and return it to school as soon as possible. Pupils should ask for an adult or older sibling to check / help them complete their homework.
- We expect children to be reading / learning their spellings on a daily basis for 10-15 minutes. We also ask children to learn number bonds and multiplication tables (including the inverse division) Children are also set ICT tasks to complete and will need to log on to their allocated ICT provision in addition to their set weekly homework in books. Log on details will be given to children at the beginning of the year.

Additional information about the structure of Homework for pupils in years 1 – 6

- Every child has a homework book where their spellings and homework are put weekly along with an ICT based learning task. This will reflect the learning that has taken place in class or will be used as an assessment tool for learning that will take place.
- The homework book is to be returned to class first thing on Thursday morning, when it will be assessed and new homework given on Friday afternoon. Spelling tests happen on a Friday and new spellings are also stuck into books on a Friday afternoon.
- Classes will have a homework book box in class for children to put their book in when completed.
- Work in books and tasks online will be assessed and handed back to the children awarding house points as positive recognition as and where appropriate.

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

Homework timings: As a guide, the amount of homework increases as children move throughout the school. Homework is in addition to time spent reading, learning spellings / timetables and number bonds (Mathletics).

We would like Early and Lower Phase (Reception to Year 3) to spend a minimum of 10 minutes daily learning words / reading and number bonds whereas in Upper phase (Year 4 to Year 6) we would expect a minimum of 15 minutes reading and a further 15 minutes learning spellings and multiplication tables (Mathletics).

Communication with parents: Homework procedures provide opportunity for teachers and parents to express specific requirements, concerns or comments regarding the homework of individual children. The class letter reminds parents of homework procedures and we would remind parents to sign their child's reading diary/record. We would like parents to be writing comments at least 2 to 3 times per week. Reading diaries/records are monitored on a regular basis by staff to assess pupil progress, to reward consistent effort and to ensure parental support.

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 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. Incomplete homework or homework not returned by the Thursday morning deadline will result in a consequence being given where the child will complete part of the homework during their play time on the Thursday that their homework is due in. We ask parents to support us with this so that children understand their choice to not complete and hand their homework in on time will result in a consequence.

Incomplete homework:

Teachers (and support staff) spend time explaining the homework and how to complete it when it is given out on a Friday. Children are given opportunity throughout the week to come and ask the class teacher or teaching assistant if they don't understand the homework and support will be given. Class teachers will contact parents of students with incomplete homework by the Thursday deadline to inform parents and offer support where necessary. Incomplete homework will result in a consequence being given where the child will complete part of the homework during their play time.

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 2022

Review: September 2024