

Aspire Learning Trust



Homework Policy

Policy Reference: Homework Policy 2017

To be reviewed: Annually

Policy Owner: Local Governing Body (New Road Primary School and Park Lane Primary School and Nursery)

Policy Revisions	Progression	
Date	Reviewed	Description of changes
		New Policy

Date Approved	
Date Reviewed by	
Signature of Chair	
Print Name	

New Road Primary School and Park Lane Primary School and Nursery Homework Policy

Rationale of the policy

Homework helps parents to understand what their child is required to learn at school. Children who are fortunate enough to have families that encourage them to complete their homework and to read frequently are much more likely to achieve the age related expectations in mathematics and English.

Overall aims

- To ensure that all pupils have high quality homework in English and Mathematics.
- To ensure all pupils have every opportunity to secure basic skills in English and Mathematics.
- To ensure a whole school consistent approach that is fully understood by pupils, staff and families.
- To show a clear progression of expectation through the year groups.
- To instil in our pupils a strong work ethic that results in success, a love of learning and pride in completing school work at home.

What can parents and pupils expect?

- Homework will be easy for all parents to understand and will require little explanation.
- Homework will focus on developing a secure understanding of basic skills: punctuation, number facts etc.
- Homework will be marked using the school's marking and feedback policy.
- Homework is relevant and will reflect what is being taught at school
- Homework will be suitably challenging: not too easy or too difficult.
- Parents are encouraged to comment on the tasks set in the homework book.
- Parents' questions, concerns or suggestions will be responded to by the teacher.
- The homework task should be clear and achievable within the expected time frame.
- The homework should be completed by the pupil with minimal adult support.
- All homework tasks and/or instructions will be stuck in to a homework book.
- Teachers to fully understand and comply with this policy.

What can teachers expect?

- Homework to be completed to the best of a pupil's ability before the deadline.
- Parents and pupils to clearly state if a homework is too difficult or too easy.
- Parents to provide basic stationery items, for example pencil and ruler.
- To support the teacher if they ask homework to be completed again because it is not of a high enough standard.

Nursery (Park Lane Primary School and Nursery only)

In Nursery the aims of all homework is as follows:

- To promote a love of reading and the sharing of books.
- To encourage all parents to realise the importance of supporting their child's learning at home.

- To develop independence and competence in basic skills.
- To establish good home-school links.

Before starting school we encourage that an “All About Me” booklet is completed ready for when your child starts in September. This booklet is very useful and is used to initiate conversations about life at home and your children’s interests. Some families also enjoy filling a box with pictures and objects important to their child. This forms excellent starting points for speaking assessments in the early days.

- Parents choose these books with their child during ‘Busy Fingers’. Parents are encouraged to comment in the reading record book.
- Phonics: All children are encouraged to bring in objects or pictures for the phoneme of the week. This week’s phonemes are displayed on classroom windows, parents’ notice board and also on the parent tab on the website.
- We also include suggested activities to do at home within the Nursery News part of the monthly newsletter.

Reception homework

In Reception the aims of all homework is as follows:

- To promote a love of reading and the sharing of books.
- To encourage all parents to realise the importance of supporting their child’s learning at home.
- To develop independence and competence in basic skills.
- To establish good home-school links.

Before starting school we encourage that an “All About Me” booklet is completed ready for when your child starts in September. This booklet is very useful and is used to initiate conversations about life at home and your children’s interests.

- Towards the end of September, activities will be sent home to help your child read and write new words. These activities will be sent home on a Friday and will be returned to school the following Thursday.
- To help your child learn how to use numbers and learn about shape and space. We will send home some practical ideas, games and ICT links for mathematics throughout the year.
- All activities and tasks are in a homework book which is marked by your child’s class teacher.
- In addition to homework tasks, library books are available to be taken home every day throughout autumn term.
- Reading books go home from the end of September and these will be changed up to 3 times a week.
- During the holidays your child’s reading book will be sent home as usual.

Year 1 homework

In Year 1 pupils are expected to read regularly and begin to develop more independence in their reading.

- Reading books expected to be read 5 times a week for at least 10 minutes.

- Spellings (linked to phonics groups) given out on Friday to be tested following Friday (Practice 10 minutes, 5 times a week).
- A weekly mathematics task is set every Friday and is expected back before the following Friday.
- Phonics Screening Test practice begins after the Christmas holiday and is worked on throughout spring and summer term (To help children prepare for the Phonics Screening Test: a statutory test for Year 1 pupils in all schools in England).

Year 2 homework

In Year 2 pupils are expected to practise spelling patterns to improve independent writing and reading. In addition to the spelling task pupils are set an English writing task and a Mathematics Task. These will help children to consolidate and practise basic skills and to meet the age related expectations of a Year 2 child.

- Reading books expected to be read 3 times a week for 15 minutes.
- Spellings are set on a Friday and tested on the following Friday (5 min practice a day).
- Mathematics and English homework tasks are set on a Friday and expected back before the following Friday (15-20 minutes each).

Year 3 homework

- Reading books expected to be read a minimum of 3 times a week (15 minutes).
- Spellings given on a Friday to be tested on following Friday (5 min practice a day).
- Homework tasks given out on a Friday and expected back before following Friday (20-25 minutes each).
- Times Tables Practice five times a week.

Year 4 Homework

In Year 4 pupils are expected to practice spelling patterns to improve independent writing and reading. In addition to the spelling task pupils are set an English writing task and a Mathematics Task. This will help children to consolidate and practice basic skills and to meet the age related expectations of a Year 4 child.

- Reading books expected to be read at least 3 times a week for a minimum of 15 minutes.
- Spellings given on a Friday to be tested on following Friday (5 min practice a day)
- Homework tasks given out on a Friday (linked to class work/activities) and expected back before the following Friday (30 minutes each).
- Times Tables Practice five times a week.

Year 5

In Year 5 pupils are expected to continue the regular practise of spelling patterns and to develop further their skills as a reader. In addition to the spelling task, pupils are set an English writing task and a Mathematics Task. This will help children to consolidate and practise basic skills and to meet the age related expectations of a Year 5 child.

- Weekly spellings set and tested every Monday.
- Expectation of independent reading a minimum of 3 times per week for at least 15-20 minutes.
- Homework tasks given out on a Friday (linked to class work/activities) and expected back by the following Friday (30 minutes each).

Year 6 Homework

In Year 6 pupils are expected to continue the regular practice of spelling patterns and to develop further their skills as a reader. In addition to the spelling task, pupils are set an English writing task, a mathematics task and a task related to their topic. This will help children to consolidate and practice basic skills and to meet the age related expectations of a Year 6 child and to be ready for secondary education.

- Weekly spellings set and tested every Monday.
- Expectation of independent reading at least 4 times per week for 15-20 minutes (recorded in Reading Journals)
- Homework tasks set on a Friday due in by the following Friday. Each piece should take approximately 30 minutes.
- Homework will not be set during school holidays with the exception of Easter holiday revision for the SATs.