

# St George's School, Bourton

## Homework Policy

### The Purposes of Homework

- providing opportunities for parents and children to work together to enjoy learning experiences
- providing opportunities for parents, children and the school to work in partnership
- extending school learning
- consolidating and reinforcing skills and understanding
- exploiting resources for learning at home
- encouraging children as they get older to develop the skills of independent learning

### Equal Opportunities

We believe that all children irrespective of background, race, gender, disability and capability should have equal access to the curriculum and this includes homework.

Where a child is involved in other home based work (for example that arising from intervention sessions at school) a class teacher may direct that the child does not undertake the standard class homework for a period of time.

### Progression in type and quantity of homework

#### Reception

Parents/carers are encouraged to share books with their children every day. The school provides a range of books including reading scheme books where appropriate.

Parents' evenings are held to discuss and demonstrate ways of helping children to learn and enjoy reading.

#### Years 1 and 2 ~ Recommended time 1½ hours/week

Content - Reading, spellings and weekly Maths work. On occasions there will be other English work.

Children will have a reading record book and comments on other homework can be entered in it.

#### Reading

Hearing children read and reading to them is important and it is expected that children will read with their parents/carers every day if possible. Please record what has been heard/shared in the reading record book.

The school relies on parents/carers to hear children read individually. Most reading in school is shared and guided reading. Parents' evenings are held to discuss and demonstrate reading strategies.

#### Spellings

All Year Two children are given spellings weekly. The other children will be given phonic work occasionally.

#### Mental Maths

All children are given Mental Maths work weekly.

#### Theme work

Research and investigation relating to the current theme. This may take the form of a Learning Log or individual pieces of research once per year.

### **Years 3 and 4 ~ Recommended time 2 hours/week**

Content – English and Maths with occasional assignments in other subjects. Children will have a homework diary.

#### Reading

Daily reading of individual books shared with parents/carers. Daily homework diary to be used. English and Maths homework will be set on alternate weeks. One week will be given to complete the tasks.

#### Spelling

Spellings will be issued and tested weekly.

#### Maths

This will relate to Maths work and reinforce or extend it. There will also be investigative work. Tables practice is also carried out regularly.

#### Theme work

Research and investigation relating to the current theme. This may take the form of a Learning Log or individual pieces of research once per year.

### **Years 5 and 6 ~ Recommended time 2½ hours/week**

Content - Regular weekly English and Maths homework with some theme related tasks. Children will have a homework diary.

#### Reading

Children should continue to read a wide variety of books and texts. Parents/carers should regularly listen to their children read and discuss the text, characters and themes within books read.

#### Spelling

Spelling to be given weekly for the following week.

#### Maths

This will relate to Maths work and reinforce or extend it. There will also be investigative work. Mental maths practice is also carried out regularly.

#### Theme Work

Research and investigation relating to the current theme. This may take the form of a Learning Log or individual pieces of research once per year.

## **Responsibilities**

Class teachers are responsible for homework on a day to day basis.

- setting, marking, and monitoring homework
- giving guidance to parents and carers
- giving feedback to children, parents and carers

### Responsibilities of parents and carers

#### Foundation and Key Stage One - Years R - 2

Parents and carers are responsible for working with their children at home. This is best done where there is active involvement in parents' evenings to obtain guidance on helping children to learn. Towards the end of Key Stage One there may be some homework which a child could attempt on their own and parents will need to ensure that they have a suitable time and place to do it and give praise and encouragement. Teachers would appreciate any comments on the success of the homework, this can be written in the Reading Record book.

#### Key Stage Two - Years 3 - 6

Parents and carers are responsible for

- working with their children where necessary, e.g. hearing reading
- providing the conditions in which children can do their homework
- encouraging children to complete homework on time. This is best done where praise is given and homework is valued

### **Guidelines to Teachers**

The quality and effectiveness of homework depends on careful planning.

Homework should be planned to complement (not just to complete) classroom learning.

Wherever possible homework should be differentiated on the basis of prior attainment, to provide an equal and appropriate challenge for individuals.

Learning objectives should be made clear to the children.

It is important that pupils receive prompt clear feedback on their homework. Not all types of homework need to be formally marked and homework set should reflect a balance of activities. Where homework is done with parents or carers, children will often receive immediate feedback. In the case of work they do on their own, feedback may be through classwork, discussion, report back etc. Older children could review their own work in small groups. Where homework does require marking the normal marking policy of the school will apply.

It is important to monitor the demands that homework makes on children so that these demands are as even and balanced as possible.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Staff meetings to monitor and evaluate marking will include homework.

Criteria for evaluation

- Contribution of homework policy to
- attitude to learning
- progress made
- parental involvement

This policy was reviewed by the Curriculum Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2015

This policy was agreed by the Full Board of Governors on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015