



Homework Policy

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Archibald Primary School

Homework Policy

Introduction

Homework is anything children do outside the normal school day, that contributes to their learning, in response to guidance from the school or of their own accord. Pupils can complete homework either on their own or with support.

Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities to support the children's learning. For example, parents or carers who spend time reading stories to their children before bedtime are helping with homework.

At Archibald Primary School we have a strong commitment to parental involvement and see homework as one way of developing this partnership.

Rationale for homework

Homework is an important part of a child's education, and can add much to a child's development. We recognise that the educational experience that any school by itself can provide is limited by the time and resources available; children can therefore benefit greatly from the complementary learning that they do at home. Indeed, we see homework as an example of cooperation between teachers and parents/carers. One of the aims of our teaching is for children to develop as independent and responsible learners.

Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. However, we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the activities of various out-of-school clubs and of other organisations that play an important part in the lives of our pupils. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe that they develop their interests and skills to the full only when parents/carers encourage them to make maximum use of the opportunities available outside school.

Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of homework are:

- To enable pupils to maximise progress in their academic and social development;
- To help pupils develop the skills of an independent and responsible learner;
- To promote cooperation between home and school in supporting each child's learning;
- To consolidate and reinforce learning in school, and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons;
- To help children develop good work habits for the next stage in their education.

Type of Homework

The main focus of homework in Archibald Primary School will be primarily literacy and numeracy.

Homework is not just formal exercise. Children may need support from adults. Parental involvement is encouraged at a support level with the aim at developing independent and responsible learners as the children progress on their learning journey from Foundation Stage to Year 6.

All pupils are expected to practice their reading skills daily. This may be phonics practice (sounds and words) with younger pupils. Daily reading at home is key to successful learning. It has been proven that children who read for pleasure are more likely to achieve academically. Every child should be encouraged to read at home. Reading at home can be independent, to an adult, to a friend or sibling or the child being read to. It can be reading for challenge or reading for pleasure and can be a large variety of texts including books, comics, newspapers or magazines. Pupils are expected to change their books regularly but we recognise that some pupils may wish to re-read the same book several times, and others who are reading longer books will take longer to read the book. The focus is on reading for pleasure.

Reading scheme books are available from the levelled boxes in the corridors in KS1 and LKS2. Pupils may take a book to read themselves (reading book) and a book to share with another (sharing book). Pupils may also borrow books from our school library. Many KS2 pupils are also able to read texts on Reading Plus as part of their reading homework.

In mathematics, practicing times tables and number bonds will form part of ongoing weekly homework tasks.

Rewards will be given to those children who regularly complete homework (eg sticker charts, Marvellous Me!, Messages on See Saw, good work assembly where teachers share the rewards and talk about the reasons with the relevant audience).

Children are not punished if they fail to complete homework, however homework registers are kept by class teachers and if a child consistently fails to complete and return tasks, this will be discussed with the child and their parents. This may lead to the involvement of the Team leader and/or Engagement Leader.

Homework activities will include tasks such as:-

- 'Things to try at home' or 'Things to try as a family'
- 'Ask your child about...'
- 'Share your child's story' – a story they will have written themselves
- 'Find out about'
- 'How many Can you find?'

Tasks such as these may be sent home electronically on Marvellous Me! or See Saw. Parents and carers may be invited to send in photographs of pupils completing tasks on See Saw or to the school email account. There will not always be recording to be completed by the child as part of the homework.

- Pupils may be asked to consolidate some class work at home – this will always be something that they have been taught in class.
- Pupils may be tasked with some pre-learning – to find out something about what they will be learning about in class the following week
- Pupils may be set the challenge of collecting something to bring in to school (for example different shapes leaves. different coloured buttons, food cartons etc)

Pupils will be challenged to bring the outcomes for the above tasks in to school.

- Pupils may be set a range of homework tasks to be completed over a longer period of time. These tasks are likely to be related to the class learning context. Pupils will have a choice of which activities and how many activities to complete. These tasks will be added to our website and updated at least each half term. Examples are included in Appendix 1

IT

The use of IT is a fantastic support to homework and can be used with parental permission to further extend children's learning. Tasks may be sent home or shared in various ways:-

- 2 Build a profile (EYFS)
- Tips by Text (Reception)
- Marvellous Me!
- SeeSaw (pupils are able to film themselves and send in the video to school).
- Reading Plus
- PiXL Apps

Pupils may also be asked to carry our research using technology and email in the research, or a photograph of an outcomes into school.

For advice and guidance on keeping children safe online, please visit www.thinkyouknow.co.uk or www.ceop.police.uk.

Inclusion and homework

We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child, and we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way. We value and celebrate the cultural diversity of our pupils and their families, and we appreciate the enrichment that this brings.

Pupils are given tasks appropriate to their needs and are encouraged to pursue their own independent learning. This will be promoted and celebrated through class, year group and good work assemblies.

To further support families working together, we hold an annual Family Challenge. In the challenge, children are encouraged to take part in a number of activities with their family over the course of a set period of time.

In order to make homework manageable we will, wherever possible endeavour to set homework tasks on a Thursday, to be completed by the following Tuesday.

We acknowledge that for various reasons, not all pupils will be able to complete homework tasks at home, or with the support required. We aim to support the completion of homework tasks by providing a Homework Club which pupils can attend at break times and/or after school to complete tasks with the support of a member of staff if required.

Marking

Not all homework tasks require marking, but where this is required it should not be onerous on the teacher. Suggestions to make marking of homework manageable include:-

- Involve TA's in organisation/marketing of homework.
- Children mark each others work where appropriate.
- Feedback provided to work submitted on See Saw.
- Verbal feedback – opportunities for children to share findings or what they have found out, or to share photos or work which has been submitted electronically with their peers.

Monitoring

The efficiency and effectiveness of this policy will be monitored by our Senior Leadership Team when it will be discussed if the policy is being successfully implemented.

Review

The policy should be reviewed regularly. The key criteria in this review should be – to what extent is homework contributing to the progress pupils make at school and their attitude to learning?

This Policy is due to be reviewed in Summer 2022.

Archibald Primary School – Year 2 Family Challenge Street Detectives

Where do I live?	How do I get to School?	What is in my Local Community?	Reading and Research
Learn your address off by heart and tell your Parent or Carer.	<u>Travelling to school</u> Try to reduce the number of times you travel to school by car. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email in a photograph of you and your family or you and your friends enjoying your walk to school. What signs do you pass on the way to School? Draw a map of the route you walk to school. What do you see? 	Go on a community walk (with an adult). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What features of the community do you like? What features do you think could be improved? 	Get Caught Reading! When we visited Teesmouth Beach we read a story on the beach! Take a photograph of you reading somewhere exciting in the community and bring your photograph to share with the class!
What type of house do you live in? Draw a picture of your house to share with your class.			
Remember Rob the Policeman came to visit Year 2 to talk to us about Road Safety. Explain to an adult how to cross the road safely. Can you explain using the words STOP, LOOK, LISTEN and THINK?	Traffic Survey How many vehicles do you see on your way to school? Count the number of cars , vans and buses that you see. Which is the most popular ?	Look at the different types of houses in your local community. Which houses can you find? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detached Semi Detached Terraced Bungalow Flat Caravan 	Andy Preston is the Mayor of Middlesbrough. Use the internet to find out some fascinating facts about him. <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
How many road names can you find in the local community that start with your first initial in your name?			
Write an A-Z list of the names of street names that you can find in the local community.		Write a list of the people in our community that can help us.	Visit your local library. Share a photograph of your enjoying a book at the library.



Photographic evidence of completed challenges can be emailed into school: archibald@mcschool.org.uk – Don't forget to include your names and classes.

Y6 Homework Challenge Grid

Hola Mexico Learning Context

Please find below, nine homework tasks for you to try during this learning context. Once you have completed any of these activities, please share with your class and teacher.

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| 1. Do your family or friends know anyone who has been to Mexico? If so, can you talk to the person and find out more? What were their impressions of the country? | 2. Go to the supermarket and see if you can find out about any food that is imported from Mexico - try fruit or vegetables. | 3. Make a typical Mexican dish, such as guacamole or tacos. |
| 4. Design and build a Maya temple using junk materials, such as cardboard boxes, newspaper and card. | 5. Find out about Mexican flowers, trees and animals. Some are very different to those found in the UK. Record what you learn in a notebook or picture chart. | 6. Find out about Maya hieroglyphs and symbols. Can you write your name or a short message to a friend? |
| 7. In Mexico, the most common spoken language is Spanish. Can you find out how to say some phrases in Spanish? Do you know anyone who speaks Spanish? Impress them with a Spanish conversation. | 8. Which part of Mexico would you prefer to live in and why? Write down your ideas and share them with a member of your family. | 9. How much do other people know about Mexico? Create questions for a fun quiz and try it out on family or friends. |