



Leckhampton  
C of E Primary School

# Homework Policy



# open hearts open minds open doors

## Our Values

At Leckhampton C of E Primary School, we strive to be the best we can be and aim to help all children develop a love of lifelong learning in a warm, vibrant and caring environment. At the heart of our Leckhampton family are our core values:

**Respect**

**Compassion**

**Responsibility**

**Perseverance**

We aim to achieve these through developing:

- Excellence and effort
- Inclusion and diversity
- Fairness and equality
- Supportive parent partnerships
- Community and Church partnerships
- Our well-resourced and exciting learning environment
- Our commitment to safeguarding children
- Our dedicated team of staff and governors

Homework...

keeps your brain going (Ed)

helps us get better at Maths and English (Rory)

## Aims of this policy

- To explain the purpose of homework at Leckhampton Primary School.
- To clarify expectations as to what homework will be set and when.
- To clarify responsibilities for homework.
- To explain different types of homework which may be set.
- To support parents with facilitating the completion of homework.
- To ensure consistency of approach and entitlement throughout the school.

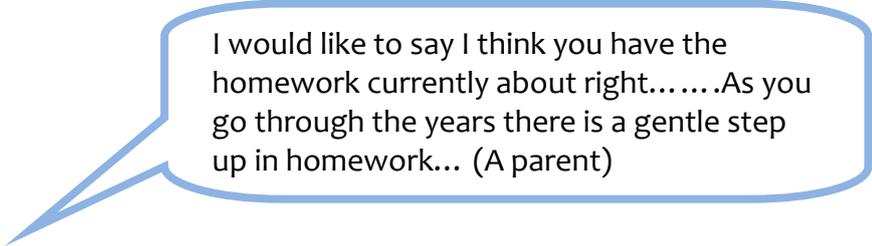
## The purpose of homework

There are many different views about homework set at Primary School level. Many families lead busy lives and it can be hard for some to find time to support their child with homework set by school. However, at Leckhampton Primary School, we strongly believe that homework is an important part of the learning process and that it is important in supporting the parent and school partnership which we foster. We set homework because it can...

- help to continue to raise standards of achievement and attainment.
- improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils beyond the classroom environment.
- provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership.
- support parents in understanding what their child is learning in school.
- encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individuals.
- help children practise and consolidate basic skills and knowledge, especially in English and Mathematics.
- develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline children need to study independently and prepare them for the requirements of the next stage in their learning.
- foster curiosity and promote a lifelong love of learning.

## Organisation of homework

The Government no longer provides guidance as to the amount of time children are expected to be engaged in homework. However, it is useful to have guidance so that teachers know how much to set and parents can recognise whether or not they are spending an appropriate amount of time on homework. If homework set is taking significantly longer each week than the suggested amount, then parents should arrange to discuss this with their child's class teacher. It is generally better to do small amounts of homework regularly than to do all homework set in one go but it is down to parents to decide what works best for their families.



I would like to say I think you have the homework currently about right.....As you go through the years there is a gentle step up in homework... (A parent)

<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Total Time</b>	
Reception	Up to 30 minutes per week	Reading, letters and sounds (phonic) work and mathematics.
1 and 2	Up to 1 hour per week	Reading, letters and sounds (phonic) work, mathematics and topic work where appropriate

		from Year 2.
3 and 4	Up to 1.5 hours per week	Reading, spelling and mathematics. Work linked to topics.
5 and 6	Up to 2.5 hours per week	Reading, spelling and mathematics. Work linked to topics. (Current affairs homework – Year 6 only)

## **Responsibilities**

**Teachers** are responsible for setting homework which is relevant and in ensuring that expectations for homework are made clear to children and their parents. They are also responsible for ensuring that resources needed are provided and are of good enough quality, and that any on-line activities set can be accessed at home. They will make sure that tasks have been clearly explained and will suggest relevant, useful websites if appropriate. They will also allow a week for the completion of homework tasks where possible so that families can decide when to complete it.

**Children** are increasingly responsible for completing their homework in the time given and returning it to school by the expected date.

**Parents** are responsible for ensuring that their child completes their homework regularly and for communicating any concerns to the teacher who set the homework.

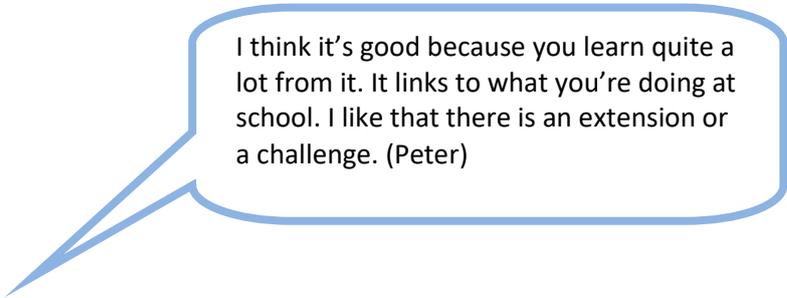
**School** will ensure that parents and teachers understand the policy, that parents are supported in facilitating homework at home and that there is a clear progression in the homework set across the school as well as a steady increase in the amount of time children spend on homework as they progress through the school. They will also provide useful and relevant information on their website to support homework such as useful websites, tips on how to make the teaching of spelling more active and engaging and how to engage reluctant readers at home. School will also explore the need for the provision of places and times where homework could be completed at school but outside of the school day.

## **Types of homework set**

### **Maths**

Maths homework is set across the whole school. Each term class teachers will organise a Maths homework booklet for the children they teach. Homework tasks are set, whenever possible, on a Friday for completion by the following Friday. Teachers will explain the week's homework task to the children during the day and will also discuss the previous homework task set and provide verbal feedback to children then. Activities will be practical and hands on where possible and will

link directly to the National Curriculum learning objectives for the year group. They should be consolidating work already covered in class. Any resources needed for the task will be provided by school if required. Letters from teachers at the fronts of booklets will inform parents of expectations for Maths homework and teachers will also ensure that parents understand the end of year expectations for Maths and expectations for rapid recall of facts.



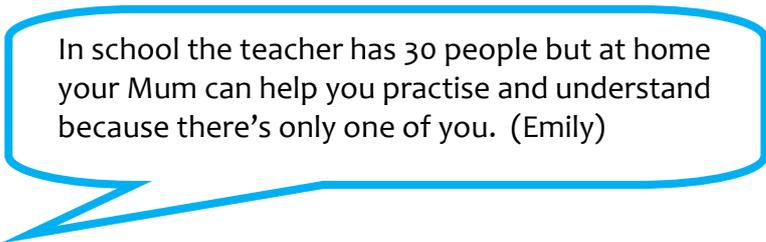
I think it's good because you learn quite a lot from it. It links to what you're doing at school. I like that there is an extension or a challenge. (Peter)

## **Reading**

Research shows that children get better at reading by reading. Children benefit more from reading a small amount each day than by reading for a long time but only occasionally. Class teachers across the school will set reading homework on a regular basis, either once or twice a week. Younger children will be provided with age and ability appropriate texts. Children will progress onto real books and will become free readers when appropriate, being expected to self-select reading material and keeping their own records about the texts they have read. Class teachers have the responsibility to make the decision as to when each child is ready for the next stage in their journey to becoming an independent reader. They will also ensure that parents understand the expectations for reading homework at the start of each year.

## **Phonics / Spelling**

As soon as children enter school, they will be taught phonics, the sounds made by graphemes. Phonics homework will be set by Reception teachers and, where appropriate, by Year 1 teachers. Children need a good grasp of phonics to support them with both reading and spelling homework. In the summer term of the Reception year, teachers will send out a tricky word sheet of words to practise at home. During Year 1, teachers will provide parents with a list of words which their children need to practise and to learn to spell. By Year 2, spellings are set on a termly basis given out at the start of each term, with a list of focus words for the term and spelling patterns to be covered at home by pre-teaching. Teachers will include the basic spelling rule being taught each week where this is appropriate and useful. Spellings set link directly to the National Curriculum learning objectives for the year group. School will provide suggestions for a range of fun and engaging activities for learning spellings to support parents.



In school the teacher has 30 people but at home your Mum can help you practise and understand because there's only one of you. (Emily)

## **Topic work**

From Year 2 onwards, children will be set increasing amounts of homework which are based on other curriculum areas. This work will be set when it is relevant and purposeful and will support work being done in the class such as a survey to gain information to be used in a Geography lesson or going out to explore art work and sculptures in town. In Year 6, children will be asked to complete current affairs homework on a regular basis in order to help prepare them for secondary school and develop awareness of life outside of their immediate environment. Children will be provided with opportunities to present homework in different ways, giving them some choice about how their homework looks and promoting independence.

## **How parents can support homework**

Homework needs to be a positive experience for parents and children alike. It should not become a battle. The following recommendations can help.

- Provide a suitable time and place for your child to carry out their homework. Minimise distractions.
- Agree with your child where and when homework is to be completed over the week and stick to these arrangements as closely as possible.
- Remember that homework will require some time each week when planning other activities for your child.
- Encourage and praise your child when they have completed their homework.
- Become actively involved and support your child with homework activities when needed.
- Make it clear that you value homework and support the school by explaining how it can help your child with their learning.
- Be positive about homework.
- Understand that process is often more important than the end product.
- Speak to the teacher who set the homework if you are finding it challenging to complete homework with your child, if homework is taking longer than the suggested length of time or if you have any other concerns related to homework.

At Leckhampton C of E Primary School we expect parents to support and help their children with homework. We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved; however, there are times when we will want to see what children can do on their own. It is particularly important, as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be, they should discuss it with their child's teacher.

## **Inclusion**

We expect all children to be able to access homework set. Tasks will be differentiated where required to ensure they can be accessed by children of different abilities. Teachers will discuss any

issues which may arise from homework set for pupils with specific needs and will consider the needs of all pupils when tasks are being set.

**This policy will be reviewed every three years.  
Next review due February 2021.**