



Highfields Primary School

Homework Policy





Definition

At Highfields homework refers to tasks given by the teachers to be completed outside of usual lessons.

What does the research say about homework?

Current research from EEF (Education Endowment Foundation) suggests:

- Homework has a positive impact on children's learning. On average it can add up to 5+ months to those who actively participate in homework compared to those that don't.
- Homework that is linked to classroom work tends to be the most effective
- The quality of the task is more important than the quantity.

Why give homework?

- To inform parents about what their child is learning and therefore be able to support parents in helping their child with their learning
- To consolidate (embed) or prepare children for learning (pre-learning)
- To provide extra support/intervention
- To rehearse key skills such as reading, times tables, doubling facts, addition sums, spellings, handwriting and other key facts
- To help to foster good habits of organisation and self-discipline in preparation for the demands of Secondary School
- To support children in making progress with their learning and help meet national expectations

Our routines and expectations

Homework is set via homework books and/or ClassDojo.

There will be a set day for giving out homework and for returning this homework to school – see the journal for this information. *The set days may be different for different teachers.*

The work should always have been explained and discussed in class before coming home. It is our intention, and good practice, not to send work home that



the child has not already been taught, however, on occasion a pre-learning task will be given which will include an element of brand new learning. There is no expectation for parents to teach new skills to their children. All pre-learning tasks will come with everything the child will need in terms of support to carry out the task.

There should be a clear explanation/reminder from the teacher of what is expected.

We do expect children to maintain the same standards for presentation of homework as we set in school i.e. to use their best handwriting and a sharp pencil or handwriting pen.

It is our policy not to always give homework over the holidays and half term breaks. The exception will be where the teacher thinks extra work would be beneficial.

If you take holiday during term-time, something we actively discourage, parents may not request work from the teacher.

Type of Homework

Weekly homework will focus on basic skills in English (reading, spelling) and Maths (e.g. number bonds, times tables) and this will be carried out in their homework books.

Children will be expected to read regularly with their parents. *As they get older we would like the children to begin to read more independently but we would also encourage parents continue to read to their children all the way through primary school.* Children are expected to keep records of their reading in their “Reading Journal” and for parents to support this by also completing the journal weekly.

Talk homework is also a very valuable type of homework that we will sometimes set. This just encourages the children to speak with their families about a given topic. There is generally no writing/ recording involved in this type of homework but is hugely beneficial in supporting the children’s learning.



Year group	Homework
R	• Reading – minimum of three times a week • Tricky words practice • Phonics • “Menu” homework – a range of tasks to be completed over a half term period • Talk Homework
1	• Reading - minimum of three times a week • Phonics – sounds and word practice • Spelling – 3 words a week once the children are ready for this • Number skills • Talk Homework
2	• Reading – minimum of three times a week • Tricky words practice/phonics • Spelling • Number skills • Talk Homework
3	• Reading – minimum of three times a week • Spellings – 10 words per week • Number skills – including times tables • Talk Homework
4	• Reading for a minimum of ten minutes, three times a week • Statutory Spellings • Number skills – including times tables • Talk Homework
5	• Reading for a minimum of ten minutes, three times a week • Statutory Spellings • Number skills – including times tables • English skills • Talk Homework
6	• Reading for a minimum of ten minutes, three times a week • Statutory Spellings • Number skills – including times tables • English skills • Talk Homework

**Talk homework – there is no expectation for any recording related to this homework but we do encourage parents to hold discussions with their children around the topics that the teacher signposts.*

Roles and Responsibilities

Class teachers will plan purposeful activities with clear learning intentions, which are linked to the curriculum content. They will respond to children’s



efforts, providing encouragement and feedback and will investigate the reasons for homework not being completed.

Parents have an important role in supporting children's efforts. They need to be aware of what homework is set and provide both encouragement and an appropriate environment for its completion.

Children are responsible for completing tasks as requested (with increasing independence as they move through the school) and to take responsibility for organising any information or equipment they require. They are responsible for completing homework and handing it in on time. Children are responsible for doing their best and for completing homework to a high standard.

Incomplete Homework

If children do not complete homework and give it in on time they may be asked to complete it during the school day. Ideally, we want homework to be completed on time. If homework is regularly missed then the teacher or headteacher will contact the parents to find out why.