

Cleobury Mortimer Primary School

Homework Policy

At Cleobury Mortimer Primary School, we believe that homework is an important aspect of a child's education. We believe it encourages children to realise that learning can take place outside the classroom as well as promoting independent learning, thus encouraging the child to take responsibility for their personal progress. Homework allows parents, carers and the school, to work in partnership for the benefit of their child.

This policy is based on current government guidelines which emphasise the importance of homework and how it helps your child to learn. The guidelines include how much time pupils might reasonably be expected to spend on homework. This suggests one hour per week for Year 1 and 2; one and a half hours per week for Years 3 to 5 and 30 minutes per night for Year 6. The amount and type of homework we set is at a level which we believe to be reasonable and manageable as well as in line with the guidance provided.

Aims

Homework is encouraged throughout the school. To be most effective, parents, carers, staff and the children need to understand its purpose.

- It reinforces skills which have been taught in school and gives children the opportunity to practise what they have learnt;
- It encourages self-discipline as the children take responsibility for their learning;
- It promotes independent learning;
- It provides teachers with the opportunity to support and extend individual children;
- It sets standards for life and children become accustomed to working at home, preparing them for secondary school and future employment;
- It encourages children to share their learning with parents and carers;
- It encourages parents and carers to become involved with their children's learning;

We value the support of parents/carers and we believe that this policy will be successful if there is a strong partnership between home and school which is

reflected in the Home-School Agreement. We recognise that all children need leisure time and hope that our policy reflects a balance so children can extend and consolidate their learning with parental support while still allowing leisure time with the family.

If a family is unable to support a specific homework task because of time pressure, this should be communicated to the class teacher either in person, by phone, in writing or via email, so that the teacher is aware that there is a genuine reason for the non-completion of homework.

Additional learning opportunities can be provided for children to complete homework tasks during the school day if time is limited outside school.

Should a child fail to complete homework tasks on several occasions, the class teacher will contact the family to discuss the matter further.

Reading

We would hope that children read daily and that reading for pleasure is valued at all times and is not just confined to the total time spent completing homework. This would include fostering early reading skills, where appropriate.

We want to promote a love of reading in every child. We encourage parents and carers to discuss their children's books and ask questions about them to ensure that there is understanding of their book as well as accurate reading.

Homework Schedules

Homework is given on a regular basis across the school. Parents are informed of the amount and timing of homework at the start of each academic year. Homework content may be set as a written piece of homework or may include reading, games and activities to reinforce Literacy, Maths or other skills.

Homework may also include completing work set, finding out information, preparing a presentation, designing and/or making something, trying out a simple scientific experiment and solving problems.

As part of our inclusive curriculum, classes may be asked to complete a home learning project. These projects are linked to the class learning theme and children have a choice of how they complete the task. We believe the projects

are a great opportunity for parents and carers to work alongside their child, enhancing their learning experience.

Responsibilities

It is our expectation that homework will be completed carefully and returned on time. Teachers will offer opportunities through the week to provide support for children to help them with any homework that is confusing or difficult for children to complete. Where homework is frequently missing or not completed, late or of poor quality, the children's parents or carers will be contacted by the class teacher.

Homework club is available free to all Key Stage 2 children and provides an opportunity for homework to be completed with adult support using school resources. Parents/carers are welcome to attend homework club to work alongside their child.

The Head teacher will:

- Promote the school homework policy to staff, parents and pupils
- Monitor and evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the policy.

The teacher will:

- Set regular homework activities which will include both practical and written tasks
- Provide adequate and appropriate feedback to pupils through praise and encouragement, marking or testing (as appropriate)
- Set high expectation of pupils in completing homework.

Parents and Carers should support their children by:

- Providing a suitable place where your child can do their home learning, somewhere reasonably peaceful, with supervision if appropriate
- Make it clear to your child that you value home learning, and support the school in explaining how it can help raise attainment
- Providing activities that support the work set by the teacher
- Ensure and check that tasks are completed on time and to a suitable standard

- Be actively involved in joint homework activities with the children
- Contact the children's class teacher if they have any questions or contact the head teacher if they have queries of a general nature regarding homework.

If parents wish to make a complaint about the school homework policy or the way it is implemented, parents should contact the governing body.

Pupils should:

- Do their best to complete tasks as instructed
- Ask for help as appropriate
- Gain increased motivation and enjoyment through home learning.

Home learning should benefit teacher, pupils and parents by providing support and information to enable pupils to build confidence and make progress.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The class teacher is responsible for ensuring that the homework policy is efficiently and effectively implemented within their class. This will be monitored by the Deputy Head in order to ensure homework is contributing to overall pupil learning and progress.

Inclusion

All children will have access to homework that is relevant to their current stage of learning.

Equal Opportunities

All children are provided with equal access to homework. We aim to provide suitable learning opportunities regardless of gender, religion, ethnicity or home background.

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CMPS SLT