

Homework Policy

Subject Leader(s): Deputy Headteacher (Jenni Peters)

Aligned governors: Teaching and learning committee

Policy reviewed: Sept 2024

Next Review: Sept 2026

Principles

Homework is defined as any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside teaching time. Homework is given to enable children to consolidate, extend and enrich their learning in school and the home/school partnership is an important factor in encouraging positive attitudes towards learning. Homework is an opportunity for parents to become active partners in supporting their child's learning.

The school seeks to maintain a balance between the amount of homework given and the need for rest and leisure time when children can pursue other interests. We recognise that children have many outside interests which they enjoy, e.g. Scouts, Cubs, Brownies, Beavers, Rainbows, dancing, horse riding and wide variety of sports.

Homework is a key part in our home-school policy. It is important that every child sees that home and school are working together in partnership to provide help, support and encouragement. Homework can help to promote a positive attitude to learning at home and provides a vital link between home and school.

Aims

- to consolidate and reinforce what is learnt in the classroom
- to build up basic skills (particularly reading, writing and numeracy)
- to become curious and independent learners
- to develop good study habits
- enable pupils to extend their knowledge base
- enable pupils to extend their range of reference and research skills
- to promote the partnership between home and school in supporting each child's learning

Organisation of homework

There is no legal requirement for schools to provide a set amount of or for primary children to undertake formal homework. The time set for homework is less important than the quality of the tasks set and the way in which they relate clearly to supporting learning in the classroom.

At Pownall Green homework is set by class teachers who decide how it can best support teaching and learning in the classroom. The teacher may request that a child completes a piece of work designed to be finished in class, in the child's own time if it has not been completed in the time given. Teachers will always make clear to the child the reason for completing work at home and parents would be involved if the problem persists.

Throughout the school, homework will be set weekly on a **Thursday** and returned to school by **Tuesday**. This gives the opportunity for any queries about the homework to be answered on Friday and gives children the option of completing homework over the weekend, or during the week. Spellings will be sent home in a spelling book.

Homework expectations

- Regular reading (Reception – Y6)
- Spelling practise using Spelling Shed from (Y1-Y6)
- Times tables practise using Times Table Rock Stars (Y2-Y6)
- Maths homework from (Y1-Y6)
- English homework from (Y2-Y6)
- Occasionally teachers may set additional tasks which will be communicated via Google Classroom

How parents can support pupils' learning through homework

Parents play a vital role in their children's lasting success. At Pownall Green, homework plays a valuable part of our home-school policy as a whole. That partnership is reflected in our Home-School Agreement which makes it clear that we see the support for homework as a joint undertaking.

We aim to involve parents wherever possible in supporting their children's learning. Parents can help with homework in different ways at different stages.

Most importantly, parents are asked to:

- make it clear to pupils how much they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning
- praise and encourage pupils when they take pride in their homework
- provide a peaceful and comfortable place, free from distractions such as television, where pupils can concentrate on their homework. If this is difficult, parents might encourage pupils to attend other places where homework can be done, such as study clubs.
- encourage pupils of all ages to read as much and as widely as possible. Reading can involve parents in listening, discussing characters or plot; asking questions and helping pupils to know sounds and basic punctuation.