

Norton Community Primary School

Homework Policy

December 2015 - December 2017



Vision Statement

Nothing is beyond our reach!
Care and challenge engage and motivate us!
Praise reassures and supports us!
Successes are celebrated and built on!

Homework Policy

Policy

It is the policy of Norton Community Primary School to include homework as an integral part of the Curriculum. We believe that homework is an essential part of the learning process as it provides an opportunity for pupils to reinforce the skills learnt in school and provides an opportunity for parents to take a part in their child's education.

Through our policy we aim to:

- To ensure a consistent approach across the school
- To ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- To practise and develop skills learnt in class
- To involve parents in the learning process
- To provide opportunities for parents/carers and children to work in partnership and enjoy learning experiences.

Homework will focus on:

- Fostering a love of reading
- Developing mental maths skills

We believe reading is a key aspect of developing a child's learning. We value parents and carers reading with and to their children because it allows them to enjoy texts they might not be able to read alone, therefore improving many key skills which enable a child to access the wider curriculum.

In KS1 the children are given key word lists to focus on and learn. In KS2 there is a shift towards learning spelling rules and applying these rules to spellings.

Maths will be set to develop mental maths and problem solving activities in upper KS2. It will also consolidate skills taught in class. Parents can support their child to develop fast recall of number bonds to 10 and 20, then 100, and then tables to 12 x. By Y4 children are expected to be able to recall all their tables. It is also valuable to develop skills in real life contexts so children make links with their learning e.g. cooking to develop maths skills relating to weight, using time tables for trains and buses and telling the time.

Optional projects will also be set via Rooster (the school's on-line learning platform) for pupils to complete for additional house points. The deadline for these will be set by the teacher.

Aims of homework:

- Consolidate and extend learning
- Practise skills
- Rehearsal
- Preparation
- Positive parent/ child time.

Time

Foundation	25 minutes per week	Reading (Read Write Inc), rainbow words and Key Instant Recall Facts
Years 1 & 2	Less than 1 hour per week	Reading, spelling and Key Instant Recall Facts
Years 3 & 4	1 hour per week	As for years 1 & 2 with some work in other subjects
Years 5 & 6	1 hour per week increasing in Year 6	Reading, spelling, literacy, numeracy and topic work.

Setting and marking of homework

Homework will be set by the class teacher. Most homework tasks will be differentiated but on occasions a task may be set for the whole class or year group. Homework will be marked by the teacher or with the children where appropriate. House points will be awarded for homework being completed to an acceptable standard. All KS2 pupils will be given a homework book to complete their work into. Parents will be informed of the homework days and specific requirements for each year group by letter at the beginning of each school year. This can also be discussed at the first open evening.

Monitoring

The class teacher will be responsible for monitoring homework by pupils in their class. If homework is not handed in regularly the parents will be informed. If homework is not completed by the nominated day, the child will be asked to stay in at lunchtime to complete their work.

Pupils who put in extra effort in their homework will be recognised in the good work assemblies and/or be rewarded with additional house points.

Parental Support

Parents are encouraged to give as much support as they are able to further the child's learning. A suitable working area should be available and parents should make it clear that they see homework as valuable and something to take pride in. Parents are encouraged to write comments, which will inform the teacher and support the child, in the child's reading diary or homework book.

If a child finds it difficult to complete their homework at home the library will be available at lunchtimes for children to complete this. Staff are also available in the library to support them with their work if they are finding it difficult.

If parents feel that the task is too difficult or it is taking the child a long time to complete the work at home they should discuss this with the child's teacher at the earliest opportunity so that support and advice can be given or the task can be modified. We encourage children to complete their homework before the deadline so if they do have any issues or difficulties these can be remedied before the due date for the homework.

Resources

Pupils are encouraged to use the schools on-line platform 'Rooster' to access some homework tasks or if they need additional support. They could also use the local library to support their work. The library at school is sometimes available during lunchtimes for study support sessions. The children will need their own pens, pencils, ruler and crayons. It would also be very useful for them to have access to a thesaurus and dictionary.