

Shirley Heath Junior School



Homework Policy

Approved Date	November 25
Review Date	November 26

The School's Vision

We want our pupils to enjoy coming to school. We aim to excite and engage our children as learners. We want to foster pupil achievement and self-belief through the provision of a broad and challenging curriculum, developing individual skills, talents and interests so they know how to learn, and respond positively to the opportunities and demands of the rapidly changing world in which we live and work. We endeavour to promote the mental, emotional and physical health of all pupils, thereby enabling children to make healthy choices and lead a healthy lifestyle.

Our vision is that Shirley Heath becomes a hub of the community – a place where everyone feels welcome, secure and valued. We wish to provide services and activities that help to meet the needs and aspirations of children, their families and the wider community.

The Aims of Homework

- ✓ To provide opportunities to develop enjoyment of and a commitment to learning in order for pupils to achieve their potential
- ✓ To build on the strengths, interests and experiences of pupils so they can move effectively into the next phase of their education
- ✓ Support the attitude that learning is not confined to the classroom
- ✓ Improve the links between home and school by bridging gaps between the two by highlighting for children and parents the importance of learning at home.

Objectives

1. To encourage children to read at home on a regular basis to further develop accuracy, fluency and comprehension
2. To encourage children to practise key Maths skills at home
3. To be given the opportunity to reinforce, consolidate and complement classroom learning
4. To develop independence by taking responsibility e.g. keeping a record of the books they have read at home, completing homework and handing it in on time

Implementation of these Aims

Pupils will:

- ✓ *Take overall responsibility for homework*
- ✓ Try hard to complete all homework tasks set at home
- ✓ Read at least 5 times a week
- ✓ Complete each homework task in the time allowed and hand it in to the teacher on time
- ✓ Know that help will be given in school if it is needed

Teachers will:

- ✓ Set homework regularly according to the specified timetable
- ✓ Ensure that homework projects are meaningful and motivational. Weekly homework must reinforce work going on in school and be fully explained to the children
- ✓ Set homework that is appropriate to the level of the child
- ✓ Appreciate the time taken to complete homework tasks
- ✓ Inform parents if a child falls behind with reading / homework

Parents will:

- ✓ Ensure their child completes homework at home
- ✓ Check regularly that homework tasks are being set by school and are completed by children

- ✓ Support school by explaining how homework can help your child's learning and make it clear you value homework
- ✓ Provide a quiet place in which their child can do their homework
- ✓ Encourage their child and praise them when they have completed homework
- ✓ Hear your child read and/or read to your child or take an interest in what they have read
- ✓ Check your child has read daily
- ✓ Inform the school (via the class teacher) if problems arise

How much homework is given to each year group each week?

Weekly Homework

- ✓ **Reading at least five times a week, and measured through Accelerated Reader (AR). Teacher to follow up with parents any child not reading.**
- ✓ **Spelling homework to be reinforced daily. Pupils to practise handwriting at same time.**
- ✓ **Maths key skills or consolidation homework, including online e.g. Times Tables Rock Stars.**

Other Homework Tasks

- ✓ **Occasional topic work related to other areas of the curriculum**
- ✓ **Revision for assessments, where appropriate, especially in Year 6**

Timings

The homework tasks must be closely matched to each child's ability. On occasions, however, some children may have difficulty and we encourage parents to notify teachers

Often a child may be so engaged in the task that they wish to continue for longer. Parents can inform the teacher so that a child's efforts can be rewarded.

Incomplete homework

Parents will be contacted if their child is not completing homework. Work set consolidates learning from the week and focuses on core skills. It is expected that children complete all homework set.