

Hiltingbury Junior School

Homework Policy



AIMS

- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently and enable pupils to understand that independent learning is vital to achieving success
- To enable the curriculum to be covered in greater depth through enrichment and reinforcement
- Facilitate home/school links around learning
- Improve the quality of the learning experience offered to pupils and to extend it beyond the classroom environment.
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning.
- Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.

SCHOOL VALUES/EXPECTATIONS:

- To make school an enjoyable and richly rewarding experience through the provision of excellent teaching and learning, and an accessible, inspiring and motivating curriculum
- To provide a secure and caring environment of equal opportunity where each child can grow and develop intellectually, socially, emotionally and physically
- To offer a wide range of opportunities for the children to develop their personal qualities and enquiring minds
- To enable children to become more confident and independent learners
- To promote spiritual, moral, social, cultural and physical development within a happy and secure environment
- To promote cultural diversity in an inclusive environment, and to help children understand their social and environmental responsibilities
- To increase and improve pupils' opportunities, responsibilities and experiences so that they are well prepared for the next phase of education and for adult life

HOMEWORK GUIDANCE:

1. Each child will have a Homework Diary to record their weekly tasks in with a space for parents to sign and comment. The Homework Diary must be in school every day. Some year groups will also have the homework recorded for the week on the year group website. If a parent writes a comment for the teacher in the Homework Diary it is the responsibility of the child or the parent to make sure that the teacher sees this.
2. Each child will have a Homework Book to record any tasks they do, unless these have been completed online or are too large to fit in the book. Again, further details may appear on the year group website.
3. Both the Homework Book and Homework Diary must be looked after carefully and respected like all other school books. Replacement books and diaries will cost 50p.
4. Each year group will have clear timings for homework to indicate how long they should spend on homework (please see below). However, if children wish to spend longer on these tasks then they are very welcome. There will also be a regular homework timetable with a clear pattern of days that homework is set and this will be shared with parents by the class teacher at the start of the year.

5. All homework set will be marked in some way. This could be by the teacher, parents, peer assessment or automated by the computer.
6. Children will be rewarded using house points for Homework that is complete. When homework has not been completed on 3 occasions then the class teacher will get in touch with home.
7. Homework will always involve reading, practising number bonds and/or times tables and also spelling work.
8. Children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will also be set an additional weekly task that reinforces or extends children's understanding of other areas of the curriculum, not just Maths and English.
9. Children will always have a whole week to complete their homework. Children will be given one piece of extended homework per year which they will have two or three weeks to complete.
10. Homework will be differentiated by the task set, the amount of instruction given, the outcome produced or the level of suggested support.
11. A child can stop working on their task at home once they have reached the time limit.

GUIDELINES FOR TIME TO BE SPENT ON HOMEWORK FOR EACH YEAR GROUP:

Year 3

15 minutes a day on spelling, reading and times tables and/or number bonds
One extended project per year

Year 4

15 minutes a day on spelling, reading and times tables and/or number bonds
A weekly 20 minute task to extend or reinforce curriculum work
One extended project per year

Year 5

20 minutes a day on spelling, reading and times tables and/or number bonds
A weekly 30 minute task to extend or reinforce curriculum work
One extended project per year

Year 6

20 minutes a day on spelling, reading and times tables and/or number bonds
A weekly 40 minute task to extend or reinforce curriculum work, or two shorter pieces
At least one extended project per year

FORMULATION OF POLICY:

Staff agreed the draft policy in September 2015 following a consultation period with staff, parents and pupils.

It was ratified by governors on Thursday 10th September 2015.

REVIEW DATE: Autumn 2016