



## Dinnington First School

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DFS Homework Policy

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Author	Verified by	Date	Description
R Donnelly		03/11/2022	Draft Homework Policy 2022
R Donnelly / C Parker		7/11/22	Draft 2 Homework Policy 2022 – amended Reception expectations.

Review Frequency	Next Review
Every 3 years	2025



## **Policy Introduction**

At Dinnington First School, we believe that homework can add much to a pupil's development and attainment and is therefore an important part of a child's education.

## **Aims of the policy**

Through implementation of this policy, we aim to:

- Give pupils the opportunity to extend their learning in areas of personal interest
- Ensure a consistent approach throughout the school
- To encourage children to develop the confidence, independence, self-discipline and motivation needed to study on their own and prepare them for the next phase of education
- To make set homework relevant and meaningful for the child linked to work done at school
- Make expectations about homework clear to children, parents and other carers
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work together, thereby, fostering an effective partnership between home and school

## **Why do we value homework?**

Children benefit greatly from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. By valuing home-school learning, pupils are afforded the chance to practice skills, consolidate understanding of work covered in the classroom and to widen their own interests. Moreover, developing good study habits provides an opportunity for pupils to develop self-discipline, independence and the ability to take responsibility for their own learning.

## **Principles**

- The amount and difficulty of homework is tailored according to the child's age and ability.
- Sufficient time is allowed for the completion of homework to allow for a healthy home/school work balance.
- Teachers ensure that the tasks are purposeful and aimed at developing and consolidating basic skills.
- High expectations for neat presentation are in place to ensure that children maintain a similar high standard of work at home as in school.



## Homework Activities

### Reception children / parents are expected to:

- Interact regularly with Seesaw as tasks will be given on there for whole class, small groups and individuals.
- Practise their letter sounds as often as possible.
- Practise word building as often as possible.
- Share their reading book with an adult, answering questions about it too at least once each week.
- Complete work about Word of the Week.
- Practise number recognition, 1 to 1 counting, subitising, number ordering, number bonds, etc using suggestions given on Seesaw.
- Do occasional additional activities linked to what has been taught in class.
- In the Summer term - learn their spellings for a test each Friday.

### Key Stage One children are expected to:

- Read and discuss their reading book or comprehension with an adult for 5-10 minutes most nights.
- Learn their spellings for a test each Friday.
- Practise mental maths skills learnt at school eg addition and subtraction, counting in jumps, recalling number bonds and recalling facts from the 2,5 and 10 x tables.
- Read and think about the information shared in the knowledge organisers each half term and be ready to share 5 interesting facts that they have learned.
- Follow up on suggestions given by the class teacher and complete any additional work sent home to support their learning.

### Key Stage 2 children are expected to:

- Complete all reading and vocabulary tasks set on Reading + each week.
- Read for pleasure and discuss what was read with an adult at least twice a week.
- Learn weekly spellings for a test on Fridays
- Learn to quickly recall all facts for X-tables 1 through to 12 by practising on TTRS for 10-15 minutes 3 or more times each week.
- Read and think about the information shared in the knowledge organisers each half term and be ready to share 5 interesting facts that they have learned.
- Follow up on suggestions given by the class teacher and complete any additional work sent home to support their learning. This may be either online eg MyMaths / Purple Mash / SeeSaw or paper based.



## **Expectations**

It is the expectation that all children will at least attempt to complete homework tasks to the best of their ability. If pupils need support to access these activities, then parents should make the school aware by contacting the school office via email : [admin@dinnington.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:admin@dinnington.newcastle.sch.uk) . Dates for handing homework in are always made explicit by the class teacher and must be met. Pupils are expected to complete homework to the same high standards insisted on in class e.g. neat handwriting, accurate use of full stops and capital letters etc.

## **Role of Teachers**

Our staff will:

- Help reinforce the importance and benefits of completing homework
- Ensure homework is clearly explained to the children
- Ensure homework is set and stamped / commented on when returned.
- Ensure homework is pitched correctly and purposeful

## **How you can help your child with their homework**

Below is a list of ways that you as a parent can show your child that you value their homework and the time and effort spent completing it.

**You can show you value your child's homework by:**

- providing a suitable place in which your child can do their homework, preferably with an adult to discuss, encourage and support
- making it clear to your child that you value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help learning
- encouraging your child and praising them when they have completed work set
- signing and dating your child's reading record to show that that they have read at home
- ensuring work is complete and returned to school on time
- checking your child spends a suitable amount of time on homework



**Additionally, you can support your child's development by:**

- visits to libraries, museums etc.
- cooking with them
- taking your child swimming
- playing games, e.g. board games, cards, ball games
- watching informative TV programmes together
- providing opportunities for craft activities, e.g. cutting, sticking, sewing, painting etc.
- gardening and growing plants
- using the internet to research something with your child (following guidelines for safe internet use)
- talking to your child about schoolwork, their day, what they have been learning about and how they have been learning

**Remember**, homework is about reinforcing, practicing and confidence building... Enthusing your child about undertaking homework and modelling the high value of homework to them is of key importance.