

STANWELL FIELDS C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
HOMEWORK POLICY



People responsible: SLT and all teachers
Date reviewed: Autumn Term 2015

Adopted by governors:.....Date.....

School Vision

To encourage and support thoughtful, happy and responsible children with a lifelong passion for learning, within a Christian community.

Purpose

Children perform at their best when home and school work together. Homework should also be enjoyable for the child involved and should stimulate imagination and creativity as well as reinforcing what is taught in the classroom. Homework can cover a very wide range of activities, depending on the age of the child, but throughout the primary years a consistent emphasis will be put on reading for pleasure and purpose as part of homework.

Aims

- Encourage a positive attitude towards learning
- Consolidate and reinforce what is learnt in the classroom
- Build up basic skills (particularly reading, writing and numeracy)
- Encourage curious and independent learners
- Develop good study habits
- Prepare children the next stage of education
- Provide opportunities for parents and carers to be actively involved in their child's education

It is important that every child sees that home, parents and carers 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.

Implementation

The person with the major responsibility for seeing that homework is completed is the class teacher. Staff see this responsibility as an important part of their professional duties.

All staff share an understanding that homework needs to:

- Have a clear focus and takes into account the differing ability levels of the pupils in the class
- Consolidate and extend the learning that has taken place in class and

- Be regularly monitored to ensure completion and report progress to parents/carers

We also ensure that:

- Pupils at different ages know what resources they will need to have, for example, reading or spelling books, tables and maths books, pencils or calculators and library or reference books to complete homework. Pupils will need to have a book bag or other suitable bag to carry their homework safely and neatly
- Older pupils know what additional resources might be available, for example, at the local library or on the Internet
- Praise and positive rewards are used to encourage regular and successful commitment to homework and that pupils who fail to make that commitment understand the possible consequences in terms of personal achievement
- Our homework policy is available on the school website and we ask all parents to support this through the Home/School agreement
- Each child is provided with a home school contact book which invites parents to comment upon and sign on a daily/weekly basis
- We aim to involve parents wherever possible in supporting their children's learning
- Children who do not have access to the internet or a computer are able to complete homework at school in a weekly homework club supported by a member of staff

We ask parents and carers to:

- Make it clear to pupils how much they value homework and support the school in explaining how it can help their learning
- Encourage children to ask their teacher if they do not understand the work set
- 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
- Ensure pupils have the necessary equipment e.g. pens, pencils, paper, dictionary, ruler
- encourage pupils to attend other places where homework can be done, such as the school homework club or local library
- Encourage pupils of all ages to read as much and as widely as possible
- Engage with homework by asking children to explain what they have learnt
- Give the class teacher feedback on how well children have done or any problems with homework through the home school contact book or parent's meetings

Parents and carers play a vital role in their children's lasting success. At Stanwell Fields, 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.

Children are encouraged to:

- Carry out homework tasks as set by their class teacher
- Read at home each night
- Explain homework tasks and what they are learning at school to their parents and carers

Typical Homework:

EYFS: Children and parents/carers are encouraged to share books on a daily basis and talk about these. In addition, key words or sounds may be sent home.

KS1 and KS2:

- Weekly maths facts
- Weekly maths activity (approximately 20-30 minutes)

- Daily reading (around 10-15 minutes)
- Home Learning Project linked to current history or geography topic in school. One piece of home learning should be completed each week (approximately 20-30 minutes)

Children are also encouraged to complete other independent activities at home such as writing prayers or stories, playing maths games or researching topics of interest and these can be shared in class at the end of the school day.

Children in year 6 may receive additional homework in preparation for the end of year tests and in preparation for the increased demands of secondary school.

Marking and Feedback:

At Stanwell Fields our pupils, parents and staff expect appropriate feedback on homework. Ways of providing these include:

- Monitoring the home school contact book (teachers will record scores from maths homework weekly)
- Sharing home learning in class with peer and teacher verbal feedback
- Written comments on home learning as appropriate
- Praise and recognition in classroom and worship which reward and motivate all pupils

Racial Equality & Equal Opportunities

All children have equal access and inclusive rights to the curriculum regardless of their gender, race, disability or ability. We plan work that is differentiated for the performance of all groups and individuals. Stanwell Fields CofE Primary School is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from racial intimidation and harassment and to achieve their full potential.

Links to other policies: Teaching and Learning; Marking and Feedback; Mathematics; Literacy; Equalities; Safeguarding; Assessment