

Our vision: **'Let your light shine'** based on Matthew 5.16

Eggescliffe C.E. Primary School



Homework Policy

Reviewed: June 2019
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Our vision: **'Let your light shine'** based on Matthew 5.16

Eggescliffe is a school founded in the Christian faith, which embodies Christian values in its daily life by promoting, encouraging and celebrating the abilities of all within the school community.

We:

- Welcome all children;
- Are distinguished by the way we promote attitudes of mutual respect, care and responsibility to all within the school community;
- Attach high priority to strong links between school, home, and parish with active participation of parents, local clergy and governors;
- Promote understanding of the Christian faith, particularly through the quality of Religious Education and Collective Worship together with a respect for world faiths
- Nurture a love of learning, enhance the potential of all within the school family, and encourage a positive contribution to society and the environment.

And we aim to SPARKLE!

Rationale:

It is the school policy to encourage pupils to participate in a regular programme of homework. Eggescliffe C.E Primary School firmly believes that the partnership between parents/carers is fundamental in creating an effective learning environment. It is the intention to actively involve parents/carers in the homework activities initiated by the school. It is important to ensure that homework arrangements, in addition to being educationally beneficial, are manageable for all parties involved.

What Is Homework?

Homework refers to any work or activities which pupils are asked to do outside lesson time, either on their own, or with parents/carers. It **supports** the work being covered in the classroom and is integral to it. Homework assignments will usually follow a half termly pattern but this may differ if there is a particularly short half term. The recommended time allocation being 20 minutes daily for Year 3 pupils increasing to around 30 minutes for Year 6 pupils.

Aims of Homework:

- To extend and support the school learning experience via reinforcement and revision.
- To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding, particularly in the fields of English and Maths.
- To provide opportunities for the school and parents/carers to work in partnership.
- To provide opportunities for parents/carers and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences.
- To encourage pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own, and prepare them for the requirements of secondary school.
- To extend pupils' opportunities for learning in order to raise both individual and overall standards.
- To ensure parents/carers have a clear understanding of expectations for themselves and the pupil.

Types of Homework

At Egglecliffe CE Primary we pride ourselves on our creative curriculum. Every term or half term each class has a specific topic focus on which the lessons link into.

Each half term, your child will be given a homework grid. The grid contains activities linked to areas of learning. Each activity is also linked to a thinking skill which becomes progressively more challenging. Over the course of the half term your child must complete a minimum of 6 activities from the grid. One per week. Your child must complete at least one activity from each row on the grid. They can choose which thinking skill they wish to start on. The activities relate directly to work we will be completing in class.

Your child can choose how exactly to present their homework, but by the end of the half term they must have evidence of at least 6 activities completed in their homework journal. Every child may choose to present their work differently, but the task is the same. No two children work in the same way and this method of homework will allow each child to express their thoughts and ideas in their own way. We do ask that the homework should be completed to the very best of their ability and of the standard we expect in school.

Regular reading is also vital. Parental help and co-operation is most welcome by encouraging our children to: -

- Read regularly or share a reading activity, with an adult, perhaps five or six evenings a week for twenty minutes.
- Borrow books from the library and/or the Library van.
- To use their home background as a source of information for texts and artefacts related to the ongoing school curriculum.

In Year 1 to Year 6 homework will be completed in a special homework book.

Feedback on homework activities will be given through the teacher comments in the homework grid that accompanies each set of homework and to the children during the teaching sessions following the homework activities.

Parents and pupils are also asked to comment on the homework grids on a half termly basis. **Late homework will not be marked.**

Other Weekly Homework

Foundation Stage (Nursery & Reception)

- Regular shared reading activities with an adult from a wide variety of sources, e.g.: shared stories, regular library visits, books borrowed from school.
- SPLATT bags
- Sound Books/Phonics books

Year 1 /2

- Regular reading activities with an adult.
- Weekly provision of spellings for children to practise at home

Year 3/4

- Regular reading activities with an adult from a wide variety of sources (at least three times a week)
- Completing at least 1 reading challenge every week.
- Weekly provision of spellings for children to practise at home.

Year 5

A regular programme of work to be completed each week to include:

- 75 minutes independent reading of texts from a wide variety of sources, i.e. newspapers, libraries, magazines, texts from school
- 30 minutes spelling activity and practice
- Weekly CGP Maths tasks booklet.

Year 6

A regular programme of work to be completed each week to include:

- 75 minutes reading
- 30 minutes spelling
- Weekly CGP Maths tasks booklet.

SATs preparation homework will be given in the Summer Term instead of the topic grid homework in Y6

Parents will be notified of study areas prior to children being given the work via termly Class curriculum newsletters.

Individual teachers may initiate extra homework if the need arises.

Failure to Complete Homework

This school is firmly committed to creating a positive, working partnership with parents. It is our duty to inform parents if homework is not completed by the pupil on a regular basis. If a pupil fails to complete homework to a satisfactory standard it will be communicated to parents verbally. If homework continues to be missing, then the Head Teacher will be informed and will invite the child's parents in to discuss the situation. **The teacher will not mark late homework.**

The Deputy Head Teacher will:

- Monitor and evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the homework policy.

- Review the effectiveness of the homework policy annually.
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.

The Teacher will:

- Set homework tasks which are carefully designed to meet children's individual needs.
- Set tasks which are planned to support learning.
- Set varied homework tasks, not just written assignments.
- Ensure the demands of homework are manageable for pupils and parents/carers on a day-to-day basis.
- Allow sufficient time for homework to be completed.
- Provide marking and feedback to the pupils
- Support the Head Teacher by preparing information for a termly curriculum newsletter.

The Parent/Carer will be encouraged to:

- Develop positive attitudes to homework and actively support their children when homework is given.
- Provide a peaceful, suitable place in which the pupil can do the homework.
- Encourage pupils and praise them when they have completed the work.
- Write on the work if the child has struggled with the task and make a comment on the homework grid.
- Raise any concerns / queries with the class teacher.

Governors will:

- Be well informed through the leadership of the head teacher.
- Support staff in implementing the school's policy for homework.

Special Educational Needs

Setting the right type of homework for children with Special Educational Needs is not always easy. It is important that these pupils are set as much in common with the other children as possible. Tasks should:

- have a clear focus and time guideline
- allow plenty of opportunities for pupils to succeed
- help develop social as well as other skills where necessary
- be varied - not just written assignments.

Resourcing

An appropriate investment will be made in homework within the school's budget share. This will include the provision of homework books from Y1 and purchase of appropriate resources e.g: copies of published material.

Conclusion

Homework is an essential and valuable element of learning. In order for this policy to be effective, a learning partnership with parents needs to be established. It is essential that teachers and parents maintain good pathways of communication and work together towards the shared aim of supporting the child with home/school activities.

