

The Beacon CE Primary School

Learning Together, Following Jesus

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life."

John 8:12



Homework Policy

November 2023



Introduction

By setting homework at The Beacon CE Primary School, we intend to develop a strong and mutually supportive home-school partnership which keeps parents involved with their children's education. Homework can be described as anything that children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning in response from school guidance. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support children's learning.

Purpose and Aims

Homework will help to reinforce skills and promote understanding. The main purpose is to practise, consolidate and reinforce the learning that the children achieve in class. It is an opportunity to extend learning and promote interest which will lead to the improvement of standards. It will also prepare the older children for life in secondary school. One of the aims of our INSPIRE Curriculum is for children to develop as independent learners. We believe that homework is one of the main ways in which children can acquire the skills of independence and enquiry to become lifelong learners.

This policy aims to ensure that:

- 1) Pupils are enabled to make maximum progress in their academic and social development
- 2) There is a consistent approach to homework throughout the school
- 3) Homework is meaningful and accessible to all pupils regardless of their ability
- 4) Parents are informed and involved
- 5) Children and parents have clear expectations of homework
- 6) There is a progressive approach towards independence and individual responsibility
- 7) Learning is extended to the home with a strong home-school partnership



Areas of the Curriculum Supported by Homework

Homework will be given relating to a variety of subjects within our INSPIRE Curriculum and will focus on retrieving key knowledge, ensuring children know more and remember more. This is an area of learning that children will be familiar with from their lessons each day. Children will be asked to complete activities relating to knowledge that they have already learnt in school, giving them the opportunity to practise and share their learning with families at home.

Over the school holidays, pupils will be set a project based homework linked to a topic they are learning about in their foundation subjects. The subject of this will change each half term. Not all homework will take the form of a written task. Set tasks can be responded to in a variety including voice notes, videos, PowerPoints, slide shows and typed notes. Homework can also be completed on paper and uploaded to Seesaw using a photograph.

Learning Apps

From Year 1 upwards, children will also be asked to use the following apps to support their learning. All logins will be in Reading Records and children will have opportunities to use the apps in class to ensure they understand them fully.

	English	Maths
Year 1	<p><u>Spelling Shed</u></p> <p>Children will be assigned tasks to complete to prepare for their spelling test on a Friday.</p> <p><u>Reading Eggs</u></p>	<p><u>MyMaths or Numbots</u></p> <p>Children will either be assigned a differentiated task to complete on MyMaths or children should aim to earn 1,000 coins on Numbots.</p>
Years 2 – 6	<p><u>Spelling Shed</u></p> <p>Children will be assigned tasks to complete to prepare for their spelling test on a Friday.</p>	<p><u>MyMaths or Times Tables Rockstars</u></p> <p>Children will either be assigned a differentiated task to complete on MyMaths or children will be set certain Times Tables to focus on and should aim to earn 1,000 coins each week.</p>



Learning tasks will also be given on a regular basis using different learning Apps. There are a variety of apps used for English and Maths, this grid sets out the apps to use and how to use them.

	Learning App	Suggested usage
Year 1	Reading Eggs	10 mins daily
	Numbots	30 mins over the course of the week
Year 2	Numbots/Times Table Rock Stars	30 mins over the course of the week
	Spelling Shed	5 - 10 mins daily
Year 3	Times Table Rock Stars	30 mins over the course of the week
	Spelling Shed	5 - 10 mins daily
Year 4	Times Table Rock Stars	30 mins over the course of the week
	Spelling Shed	5 - 10 mins daily
Year 5	Times Table Rock Stars	30 mins over the course of the week
	Spelling Shed	5 - 10 mins daily
Year 6	Times Table Rock Stars	30 mins over the course of the week
	Spelling Shed	5 - 10 mins daily

Reading

An important way in which parents can support their children is by regular practising of reading. Children will be bringing home reading books each week which they can choose from their class libraries or our whole school library. These can be books chosen from within their Accelerated Reader ZPD or from the Beacon Reading Spine displays for each year group. Children on our Read Write Inc. phonics programme will also take home a copy of the book they have been reading in school, alongside a storybook to promote reading for pleasure.

Recommended Time Allocation for Homework

(Government Guidelines)

Year Group	Amount of Time	Possible areas of focus throughout the year
Reception	5-10 minutes a day- 25-50 minutes weekly	Reading/ Key Words
Year 1 and 2	1 hour a week	Reading/ spelling/ key words/ handwriting/ maths/ finding out/ writing
Year 3 and 4	15 minutes a day- 1.5 hours weekly	Reading/ spelling/ times tables/ maths/ writing/ handwriting/ projects/ finding out



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Year 5 and 6	30 minutes a day- 2.5 hours weekly	Reading/ spelling/ times tables/ maths/ writing/ handwriting/ projects/ finding out



Organisation

It is important that homework is given regularly and to a set timetable.

At Key Stage 1 and 2 the children will receive homework every Friday to be completed by the following Tuesday. Children receive 3 Dojos for completing this homework.

Inclusion

Homework should be accessible and meaningful to all pupils including those with specific learning difficulties and the more able. Teachers must ensure that they provide differentiated objectives or activities appropriate to the ability of the child. If a child has any sort of special needs, tasks will be adapted so that all pupils can contribute in a positive way.

Roles and Responsibilities

On a day-to-day basis it is the class teacher who manages the children's homework system.

The teacher:

- ✓ Sets the homework according to the schools agreed timetable and the needs of the children*
- ✓ Ensures that there is a regular pattern of homework*
- ✓ Provides homework that consolidates work carried out in class*
- ✓ Keeps a record of completed homework and communicates any problems to parents*

The curriculum lead:

- ✓ Is responsible for the overall management of the homework system*
- ✓ Ensures adequate resources are available*
- ✓ Informs the parents of their responsibility in the home-school partnership*
- ✓ Will monitor the effectiveness and impact of the homework policy and set procedures*

Parents and carers will be asked to:

- ✓ Provide a suitable time and place for homework to be done*
- ✓ Encourage the child to complete homework*
- ✓ Praise their child for completion and success*



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✓ *Become actively involved in helping their child with their homework*