

Hadley Wood Primary School

Homework Policy

March 2019

We believe that childhood is a precious time and that children should have time to play, explore and learn to occupy themselves independently. We do not wish to overload our children with tasks that will take them away from these activities. The Government consider that learning at home is an essential part of good education and homework is considered to be an integral part of the curriculum and is planned and prepared for, alongside other programmes of learning. Homework:

- encourages independent working;
- consolidates work done in class;
- provides extension activities;
- prepares children in Key Stage 2 for secondary school;
- helps children to develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful lifelong learning;
- is an opportunity for parents/carers to be involved with their child's education and gain understanding of the curriculum offered.

It is expected that all children will read at home and/ or share their reading book with their parents. Reading may include being read to, reading novels, computer text, newspapers, letters, magazines, comics and non-fiction books.

Some skills have to be learned and practised and there is not time in the modern curriculum for these rehearsal skills: times tables have to be learned by rote - (there is no quick way of achieving this, but you will not be able to achieve the year 5 and 6 maths expectations unless times tables are *secure* by the end of year 4); KS2 children need to read some of their guided reading books in preparation for their weekly 'small group' sessions.

We acknowledge that people have busy lives and that children have lots of activities outside school. To this end, the homework that your child will be expected to complete each half term will be presented on a 'grid'. The child will be asked to do one thing from the grid each week, but the order in which they complete things is up to them, i.e. if you are away for the weekend, chose a quick activity; if it is a rainy Sunday afternoon bake some cookies or make a castle from scrap.

The marking of homework will provide children and parents with feedback which reflects how well the objectives of the homework have been met. Depending on the type of homework completed, feedback may also be given verbally to children.

Some of the homework requires children to undertake some research either by going to the library or using the Internet. Children will be given clear verbal/written guidance as to the amount and focus of the homework, which can be uploaded back on to our cloud 'Fronter' to save lots of printing at home.

It is important that children are safe when using the internet. Children have esafety lessons in school. Parents are encouraged to look at the website: <http://dotcomcf.org/> in the section 'Safety on the net' which provides useful information to safeguard children. Further guidance and information for staff and children as well as parents can be found on <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Homework files, folders or books are provided for children to keep their homework in, together with a personal file on the class webpage. It is expected that written work will be of the same quality as the work in the children's other books at school.

No child should struggle with homework - the tasks will be designed specifically for their age groups. If you do not understand a task do ask the class teacher, who will be in the playground at the end of each day.

Homework:

- Reception and Year 1: Nightly reading and phonics; other homework provided by the teachers
Years 2, 3 and 4: Nightly reading, tables and spellings; topic based homework grid
Years 5 and 6: Nightly reading, tables and spellings; topic based homework grid; other revision and booster work as necessary.

Accepted on behalf of the Governing Body by the Curriculum Committee