



HOMWORK POLICY

At Boyne Hill CE Infant & Nursery School we provide an inspirational and stimulating curriculum which challenges all pupils to realise their individual potential. Learning at home is recognised as being an essential part of good education and thus regular homework is important. It gives children the opportunity to practise at home the tasks done in class and helps them work towards improving important skills.

We value the role homework plays in:

- developing an effective partnership between school and home
- ensuring parents/carers have a clear understanding of planned learning experiences and expectations
- ensuring progression towards independence and individual responsibility
- extending the child's learning through reinforcement and revision
- providing opportunities for parents/carers and children to share learning experiences

We aim for progression in both the type and quantity of homework through the school.

In Foundation Stage 2: Pupils are expected to share their guided reading books at home in addition to reading in school. They should also spend some time throughout the week learning their key words and phonics, practising letter formation and writing in line with our systematic synthetic phonics programme. In addition and twice termly, the children will receive a Communication and Home Learning Letter that informs parents of what they have covered in class and will also include activities to consolidate learning at home. Activities are designed to give the opportunity for parents and carers to be involved with their child's learning without being too onerous and recognising the benefit of strong links between home and school. Regular opportunities are given to engage in 'show and tell' to promote confidence in talking audibly.

In Years 1 & 2: Pupils are expected to read daily at home for 10 minutes minimum in addition to reading in school. They should also spend some time each week learning their spellings which are given as differentiated challenges. Online Purple Mash Maths tasks may be set each week and they will have an extended homework task related to the termly theme. Each term there is a Spoken Language task which each child is expected to prepare for at home before presenting to their class.

- Homework set will be given a clear deadline date but some consideration may be given to children's other commitments.
- Teachers will hand out a homework task information sheet each week for the child to put in their book bag.
- If a child is off school because they are poorly on the day information is distributed, it will be put in their drawer for collection on their return.
- If a child is off school for a length of time due to illness but is well enough to do some work at home, it is the decision of the teacher with the parent/carer to agree what should be done and what sort of help needs to be given.
- If a holiday is taken during term time, homework will not be set for that period.

In all of the above, the giving of homework shall remain flexible and adaptable.

Special Educational Needs

Homework applies to all pupils but it can be differentiated according to their needs.

School staff support this policy by:

- providing a range of homework tasks and activities to consolidate and extend learning in the class
- ensuring the children have a clear understanding of the tasks involved and a common understanding of the high expectations held of them individually, according to their ability
- communicating with parents/carers and keeping them informed of children's progress, projects and topics to be covered and their children's individual targets

Parents/Carers can support this policy by:

- providing somewhere quiet for their children to work without distractions
- providing encouragement and support
- supporting the school in explaining that homework is valued and aids learning
- encouraging their child and praising them when homework is completed
- letting the teacher know of any issues or difficulties

Children are encouraged to:

- take their homework seriously
- take pride in presentation and content
- listen carefully to the description of tasks and ask for help if they do not understand
- begin to take responsibility for handing in completed tasks on time

Feedback for children from parents/carers and teachers

It is important that feedback is given to pupils as quickly as possible. This can be given in a number of ways:

- immediately by parents/carers
- discussion in class where homework is part of the class work
- through tests such as spellings
- presentation of homework to the rest of the class

Teachers are interested to know how pupils carried out the tasks, whether they are too hard/too easy, interesting etc. Any comments can be fed back via email to the class teacher. Parents/carers may also wish to comment on whether the time allocation was appropriate or whether the task was too long or too short. As with all school activities, parents/carers are welcome to discuss any concerns or queries with their child's class teacher prior to or after the deadline date.

This policy will be reviewed biennially

Last reviewed: July 2025