



BIRCHANGER C OF E (VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL

Homework Policy

November 2014

Review Date	Reviewed By	Date:	Ratified by (if applicable)	Date:	Next Review Date
November 2014					

Birchanger Church of England (VC) Primary School

Homework Policy

Aims

Our aims in setting a Homework Policy are to provide a consistent approach to homework throughout the school. We recognise that effective learning for children comes from a partnership between parent/carer, school and child and that an effective Homework Policy is an important link in this.

The Purpose of Homework

At Birchanger School we believe homework forms an important part in a child's learning. Homework is used to consolidate and reinforce key skills, it gives children an opportunity to extend and develop learning in their own way and encourages children to become independent learners. Receiving and completing regular homework encourages children's organisational skills. Homework provides opportunities for parents and children to work together and it allows parents to gain an understanding of what the children are learning.

The purpose of homework changes, as children get older. In Reception and Key Stage 1 the emphasis is on developing a partnership with parents and carers and involving them in the key steps of children's early learning. As children get older we use homework to provide an opportunity for children to develop the skills of independent learning. By the time the children reach Year 6 we aim to provide a regular schedule of homework to benefit the children's learning and to aid the transition to secondary school.

Therefore, as children move through school the amount of homework and type of tasks set will change and homework tasks will be appropriate to the age and stage of learning of each child. Tasks will be linked to the child's learning in class and will have a clear objective and outcome. Homework should be completed to the same high standard as work completed in class. Homework will be marked regularly and where appropriate feedback about how to improve will be given.

Most homework will be set and collected in weekly. This will be on a regular day to allow pupils to develop routines. Sometimes longer projects will be set as homework with a few weeks being given to complete an extended task, expectations and deadlines will be made clear by the class teacher.

Homework Schedule

The following pattern of homework has been developed within the school. It provides a guide to the sort of homework each year group can expect and how homework builds over the primary years. However, there will be times when there are changes to this, depending on the work undertaken in class and special events in school.

Reception Class

- Children should read daily with an adult, reading should be recorded in reading diaries.
- A topic activity such as a finding out task will be sent home for parents to complete with their child.

Year 1

- Children should read daily with an adult, reading should be recorded in reading diaries.
- From October in Year 1, a weekly maths activity will be sent home, e.g. a worksheet, game or challenge.
- From January in Year 1, weekly spellings will be set including key words and spelling patterns.

Year 2

- Children should read daily with an adult, reading should be recorded in reading diaries.
- Weekly spellings will be set including key words and spelling patterns.
- A weekly maths activity will be sent home, e.g. a worksheet, game or challenge.
- From January in Year 2, children will be expected to learn multiplication tables as part of homework

Year 3 and 4

- Children should read regularly with an adult, at least 4 times a week. Reading should be recorded in reading diaries.
- Weekly spellings will be set including key words, spelling patterns and topic words.
- Children will be set multiplication tables to learn.
- A weekly literacy or maths homework task will be set.
- A topic challenge eg finding out, collecting examples may be set.

Year 5 and 6

- Children should read regularly, at least 4 times a week. Children may read aloud to an adult or read independently then discuss their reading with an adult. Reading should be recorded in reading diaries.
- Weekly spellings will be set including spelling patterns, topic words and words from personal spelling lists.
- Multiplication tables will be set to learn as homework.
- A maths worksheet, practising skills learned in class during the week.
- A weekly topic based or English homework task will be set.

Roles and responsibilities

What is the role of the school?

- To provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework
- To ensure this policy is fully and consistently followed
- To provide support for parents with information about homework and curriculum matters eg maths workshops, phonics workshops

What is the role of the teacher?

- To plan and set homework that is appropriate to the needs of the child
- To ensure all children understand the homework they have been given
- To mark and give feedback about homework
- To be available to talk to parents and children about homework
- To inform parents if there is a problem regarding homework

What is the role of the parent?

- To ensure the child completes homework to a high standard and hands it in on time
- To provide an appropriate time and place for the child to complete the homework
- To support the child in completing homework
- To sign reading diaries to confirm that their child has read either to an adult or independently
- To make a note in the homework diary to say if a child has needed a lot of support for an activity

What is the role of the child?

- To ensure they have everything they need to complete homework each week
- To make sure they understand the tasks that have been set
- To put in the same level of effort as would be expected of class work
- To hand the homework in on time
- To take on board any feedback about homework

Monitoring and review

School leaders will monitor the implementation of this homework policy. The policy will be reviewed every three years.