

NORTH DUFFIELD SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

North Duffield community Primary School appreciates the importance of the links between home and school. By working together, we can provide the best education for our children.

We believe that it is important for our children to take work home, enabling parents to share in what they are doing at school and giving opportunities to offer encouragement and support.

As children get older, homework helps to prepare them for secondary school and life-long learning by encouraging good habits and helping them to take responsibility for their own study. It helps children to consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding developed at school and extends school work. It gives an opportunity for parents and children to work together and to enjoy learning experiences.

Our approach to homework varies according to the age of the children, the professional judgement of the teacher, and the curriculum areas being studied at any particular time.

Reception, Y1/Y2

Children take reading books home and possibly a list of words or letter sounds to learn. Simple practical mathematical tasks are set and extra written tasks may be given by agreement between the parents and class teacher. Year1/2 will also learn tables and spellings and may be asked to take work home to finish.

Years 3 / 4

Children continue to take reading books home. In many cases they enjoy reading themselves - parents can help by encouraging them to discuss the parts they like best, the characters, what might happen next, etc. Some children still need to improve their reading skills and to build their self-confidence.

Parents will be informed about topic work and other areas of focus at the beginning of each term. They will be given specific tasks of homework in

maths and literacy to complete, which are linked to the strategies, and some topic work.

Year 5 / 6

As children get older, the amount and variety of homework will increase. In addition to reading and tables they are likely to have work related to their topic, maths and English. This may be an extension, research or follow-up of work they have been doing at school, or a separate topic or presentation, reading in preparation for lessons or more traditional assignments.

Parents should discuss children's homework with them and help them to develop a good routine for completing their work.

At key stage 2, homework is recorded in each individual's homework diary. Diaries are a partnership between home and school and should be signed regularly by both staff and parents.

Amount of Homework.

We recognise that many children take part in out-of school interest clubs and that the precise amount of time set for homework is less important than the intrinsic value of the tasks. However, the recommendations are:

Key Stage 1: 10 minutes per day or one hour per week.

Years 3/4: 20 minutes per day or 1.5 hours per week.

Years 5/6: 30 minutes per day or 2.5 hours per week.

The role of parents and carers.

Homework gives parents the opportunity to show children that they are interested in their work. As such it is rewarding for both, and encouraging for the child. It promotes a positive attitude to learning and prepares children well for the future.

Parents can help with homework by:

- Providing a reasonably peaceful, suitable place for doing homework.
- Making it clear to children that they value homework and support the children in explaining how it helps them to make progress.
- Expecting deadlines to be met and praising children for the completion of homework.

Absences

When children are absent because they are sick we do not usually send work home. We make the assumption that they are not well enough to work. It may happen, however, that a child is absent for a length of time but is well enough to do some work at home. In these circumstances, the teacher and the parent agree what should be done, how it will be worked and what sort of help needs to be given.

If parents have queries about homework, they should see the child's teacher.