



This policy was adopted in **September 2017**

This Policy is due for review in **September 2020**

GOVERNORS STATEMENT ON HOMEWORK

The Governors and staff of Bevendean Primary school believe that homework is an important aspect of a child's education. We believe it encourages children to realise that learning can take place outside the classroom as well as promoting independent learning thus encouraging the child to take great responsibility for their personal progress. Homework allows parents, carers and the school, to work in partnership for the benefit of their child.

This policy is based on current government guidelines which emphasise the importance of homework and how it helps your child to learn. The guidelines include how much time pupils might reasonably be expected to spend on homework. While most parents do appreciate the value and importance of this homework, a few feel that we do not set enough whilst others feel there is too much! The amount and type of homework we set is at a level which we believe to be reasonable and manageable as well as in line with the guidance provided.

Aims

Homework is encouraged throughout the school. To be most effective, parents, carers, staff and the children need to understand its purpose.

- It reinforces skills which have been taught in school and gives children the opportunity to practice what they have learnt;
- It encourages self-discipline as the children take responsibility for their learning;
- It promotes independent learning
- It provides teachers with the opportunity to support and extend individual children;
- It sets standards for life and children become accustomed to working at home, preparing them for secondary school and futures employment
- It encourages children to share their learning with parents and carers;
- It encourages parents and carers to become involved with their children's learning

We value the support of parents/carers and we believe that this policy will be successful if there is a strong partnership between home and school. We recognise that all children need leisure time and hope that our policy reflects a balance so children can extend and consolidate their learning with parental support while still allowing 'down time'.

Homework Policy Review - October 2018

The school completed an audit and review of the Homework Policy in October, 2018. A summary of the results are followed.

Teacher Summary:

- The revision and practice of times tables, number bonds and reading, and Year group specific spellings are essential and support good learning and progress. These help children develop fluency in class. In setting times tables and number bonds tanks, it is difficult to monitor and ensure that children doing well. It was felt that daily reading at home was essential! Reading at home is a great way for parents / carers to see how their children are progressing.
- In general, weekly homework develops children's confidence, independence skills and determination.
- Quick, short burst tasks that link to English, Maths and Topic are the most successful. It is important that these short simple exercises also allow parents / carers to get involved.
- Creative Topic projects are successful and allow a more sustained task over a period of time. However, the school will ensure that these tasks are manageable and not cost prohibitive.
- Involving parents / carers with homework is essential for homework to be successful, however many parents / carers require support and guidance on how best to support their children with homework.
- Homework can be an effective way for parents carers to see how well their children are doing in school, and gain a greater understanding of what they are learning.
- Teachers / Teaching Assistants will respond to homework with a tick and sometimes a brief comment. House Points will be rewarded to children who have attempted and completed their homework.

Parent / Carer Summary:

Q1: Are you happy with the school's current Homework Policy:

Yes: 69.32% No: 30.77%

Q2: Does your child receive too much, too little, the right amount of homework?

Too Much: 10.26% Too Little: 25.64% Right Amount: 64.10%

Q3: Should children in Primary School receive homework?

Yes: 61.54% No: 38.46%

Q4: Does Homework help children with their learning?

Yes: 74.36% No: 25.64%

Q5: What are some of the benefits of children completing Homework?

- Practice and develop a deeper understanding of the curriculum. Gain additional knowledge and develop stamina. Develops responsibility, but Homework is not necessary.
- Provide parents / carers with a better understanding and appreciation of what children are learning. An opportunity for parents / carers to encourage and support.
- Great opportunity for parents / carers to get involved in children's learning and supports children in meeting deadlines. Education is a partnership between home and school - homework supports this.
- Ensures that children continue to learn outside of school; who can have too much knowledge?
- Supports the development and transition to secondary school.

Q6: What types of homework are most beneficial?

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ➤ Reading ✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓ | ➤ English ✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓ |
| ➤ Spellings ✓✓✓✓✓ | ➤ Maths ✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓ |
| ➤ Topic ✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓ | ➤ Fact Finding / Research ✓✓✓✓ |

- Writing ✓
- Art
- Problem Solving ✓
- Shouldn't have Homework
- Revision
- Phonics ✓
- Homework through games / activities ✓
- Homework Tasks that are short and sweet

Q7: Would you be happy if homework only consisted of Read and Times tables / Number Bonds?

- Yes: 48.72%
- No: 51.28%

Reading

For reading homework to be effective, we:

- hope that children read daily and that reading for pleasure is valued at all times and is not just confined to the total time spent completing homework.
- hope that reading includes the fostering of early reading skills, where appropriate developing the skills that children learnt at school.
- want to promote a love of reading in every child and encourage parents and carers to discuss their children's books and ask questions about them to ensure that there is understanding of their book as well as accurate reading.
- encourage parents and carers to read to their children at home as regularly as possible

The school runs a daily / weekly free book swap in both the Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 playgrounds. All children, along with their parents / carers, have the opportunity to select and exchange a book to take home and read both independently or together.

Year Group	Homework
Nursery	Nursery children are sent home with a '@Rhyme of the Week' to learn and sing at home.
Reception	A task or activity linked to Phonics, Numbers, Letters or topic is set each week; these are usually make or do type activities.
Year 1	A weekly task is set linked to Maths, English or Spelling. Sometimes a more involved task is given linked to the topic.
Year 2	A weekly task is set linked to Maths, English or Spelling. Sometimes a more involved task is given linked to the topic.
Year 3	A weekly task / activity will be set based on Maths, English or Topic. Twice throughout the year, a topic based project will be given that takes up several weeks and is generally more involved than the weekly tasks.
Year 4	A weekly task / activity will be set based on Maths, English, Science or Topic. Twice throughout the year, a topic based project will be given that takes up several weeks and is generally more involved than the weekly tasks.

Year 5	A weekly task / activity will be set based on Maths, English, Science or Topic. Twice throughout the year, a topic based project will be given that takes up several weeks and is generally more involved than the weekly tasks.
Year 6	A list of tasks and activities will be given at the start of the term that are worth varying points (based on Maths, English, Science and topic). The children then earn points by completing these tasks.

Responsibilities

The Headteacher will:

- Promote the school homework policy to staff, parents and pupils and ensure that is published on the school's website. As and when required, undertake a review of the current policy with all stakeholders.
- Monitor and evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the policy.

Class Teachers will:

- Set regular homework activities which will include both practical and written tasks
- Respond and provide adequate and appropriate feedback to pupils through praise and encouragement, marking or testing (as appropriate)
- Set high expectations of pupils in completing homework appropriate to the child's current programme of study (year group).

Parents and Carers should support their children by:

- Providing a suitable place where your child can do their home learning, somewhere reasonably peaceful, with supervision if appropriate
- Make it clear to your child that you value home learning, and support the school in explaining how it can help raise attainment
- Providing activities that support the activities set by the teacher
- Ensure and check that tasks are completed on time and to a suitable standard
- Being actively involved in joint homework activities with the children
- Contact the children's class teacher if they have any questions of a general nature regarding homework. If parents wish to make a complaint about the school homework policy or the way it is implemented, parent should contact the governing body.

Pupils should:

- Do their best to complete task as instructed.
- Ask for help as appropriate.
- Gain increased motivation and enjoyment through home learning.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The class teacher is responsible for ensuring that the homework policy is efficiently and effectively embedded within their class. This will be monitored by the Senior Leaders in order to ensure homework is contributing to overall pupil learning and progress.

Inclusion

All children will have access to homework or that is relevant to their current stage of learning.

Equal Opportunities

All children are provided with equal access to homework. We aim to provide suitable learning opportunities regardless of gender, religion, ethnicity or home background.