



ABINGDON PRIMARY SCHOOL **Homework policy**

The Governors and staff of Abingdon 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 greater responsibility for their personal progress. Homework allows parents, carers and the school to work in partnership for the benefit of the children.

This policy is based on current government guidelines which emphasise the importance of homework and how it helps children to learn. 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. 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.

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 practise what they have learnt

It encourages self-discipline as the children take responsibility for their learning

It promotes independent learning

It sets standards for life and children become accustomed to working at home, preparing them for secondary school and future 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

Reading

All children should read at home daily for at least 15 minutes. Every child should have a school book bag (available from the school office) and a Reading Journal. Children or parents / carers should record the reading in the reading journal every day. These are checked at school regularly. We want to promote a love of reading in every child. We 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. This homework is celebrated at the end of each half term where children who have read regularly (as recorded in their reading journals) are invited to a special event with the Head Teacher.

Spelling

All children from Year 1 to Year 6 take home weekly spelling lists to learn. These are taken from the National Curriculum spelling guidance. Children are expected to practise their spellings at home for about 5 minutes every day. Children are tested on these spelling in class each week. This homework is celebrated at the end of every half term when the best speller in each class takes part in our whole school Spelling Bee competition. The winner receives a family voucher prize, sponsored by a range of local businesses.

Times Tables

All children from Year 2 to Year 6 are given a times table chart to keep at home. Children are expected to practise the times table that they are learning at school for about 5 minutes every day at home. Children are tested on their times tables regularly at school. This homework is celebrated in individual classes on the class Times table ladder.

Topic Grids

Each half term children in Years 1 – 4 are given a topic grid with a range of activities to support and extend their learning. The aim of these is to encourage parents and children to work together and to provide a focus for home learning. Children are expected to select at least two activities to complete at home over the course of the half term.

Years 5 and 6

In addition to reading, spelling and times tables, all children have the opportunity to attend after school booster clubs for reading, writing and mathematics, targeted to their own needs. Children are expected to attend these sessions. Parents or children who would like further work should speak to the class teacher who can offer advice and guidance. Children have the opportunity to take home CGP revision guides.

Responsibilities

It is our expectation that homework will be completed carefully and returned on time. Teachers will offer opportunities through the week to provide support for children to help them with any homework that is confusing or difficult for children to complete. Where homework is frequently missing or not completed, late or of poor quality, the children's parents or carers will be contacted by the class teacher.

The Head teacher will:

- Promote the school homework policy to staff, parents and pupils
- Monitor and evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the policy

The teacher will:

- Set homework activities which will include both practical and written tasks in line with the school policy
- Provide adequate and appropriate feedback to pupils through praise and encouragement, marking or testing (as appropriate)
- Set high expectation of pupils in completing homework

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
- 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 or contact the headteacher if they have queries of a general nature regarding homework.

Pupils should:

- Do their best to complete tasks 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 implanted within their class. This will be monitored by the Deputy Head teacher in order to ensure homework is contributing to overall pupil learning and progress.

Inclusion

All children will have access to homework 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.

 Homework				
Year	Reading	Spelling	Maths	Other
1	At least 15 minutes daily – reading records	2x HLV 8x Y1 tricky words LA: 2x HLV 8x phase 2 words		Topic grid – at least two activities each half term
2	At least 15 minutes daily – reading records	Y2 tricky words HLV words LA:	Times tables	Topic grid – at least two activities each half term
3	At least 15 minutes daily – reading records	Y3 tricky words – 8 per week, repeated each term. HLV words LA:	Times tables	Topic grid – at least two activities each half term
4	At least 15 minutes daily – reading records	Y4 tricky words half termly HLV words LA:	Times tables	Topic grid – at least two activities each half term
5	At least 15 minutes daily – reading records	Y3/4 words revision, then moving on to Y5/6 words HLV words SEND / EAL: KS1 tricky words	Times tables	Booster classes
6	At least 15 minutes daily – reading records	Y5/6 words – weekly	Times tables	Booster classes