



## **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**

Children in both Nurseries have a reading buddy picture book that is changed weekly. This is for parents / carers to share with their child.

Children in Reception and KS1 bring home a Reading for Pleasure library book each week to share with their parent / carer.

All children from Reception to Year 6 should read their school reading book 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 3 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.

## **Times Tables**

Children in KS2 are given times table homework weekly. This homework can take many different forms: times table challenges, flash cards, games, instant recall using the PiXL times table APP or interactive games. Children are expected to practise their spellings at home for about 5 minutes every day.

## **Topic Challenges**

Parent information sheets are uploaded onto our school website each half term outlining the learning for each year group in the current topic. These sheets are also available as paper copies on request at the school office. These sheets include ideas and activities for parents to complete at home with their children to support the current learning in class.

## **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 or 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 parents / carers will support children to complete homework. 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, 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 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
Nurseries	Reading for pleasure book / library book (weekly)			Home learning section on parent information sheets
Reception	Reading for pleasure book / library book (weekly) Reading book: At least 15 minutes daily – reading records			Home learning section on parent information sheets
1	Reading book: At least 15 minutes daily – reading records			Home learning section on parent information sheets
2	Reading book: At least 15 minutes daily – reading records			Home learning section on parent information sheets
3	At least 15 minutes daily – reading records	At least 5 minutes daily - Words taken from the Y3 National Curriculum word list	Times tables 5 mins daily	Home learning section on parent information sheets
4	At least 15 minutes daily – reading records	At least 5 minutes daily - Words taken from the Y3 & Y4 National Curriculum word list	Times tables 5 mins daily	Home learning section on parent information sheets
5	At least 15 minutes daily – reading records	At least 5 minutes daily - Y3/4 words revision, then moving on to Y5/6 words	Times tables 5 mins daily	Booster classes Home learning section on parent information sheets
6	At least 15 minutes daily – reading records	At least 5 minutes daily - Y5/6 words	Times tables 5 mins daily	Booster classes Home learning section on parent information sheets