



Barnsbury Primary School and Nursery

Homework Policy

Status:	Statutory
Policy Originator:	Jo Harrup
Review Period:	2 years
Approved (Next Review Date):	November 2022 (November 2024)

Policy Statement

It is important that homework is set appropriately and consistently throughout year groups and the whole school, and that both pupils and parents are clear about what is set and the school's expectations for its completion. This policy outlines the principles and strategies for the setting of homework at Barnsbury Primary School and Nursery.

The school strives to live the **Values** based curriculum programme which it delivers. This encompasses all aspects of teaching and learning in school but particularly focuses on PSHE, RE and through development of 'living and learning' skills. In the subject area of Homework the following values are particularly relevant **responsibility, determination** and **perseverance**. We aim for our values to show through everything that is said and done in school by all members of our school community.

Aims

- To encourage basic skills of reading by the sharing of reading materials regularly with an adult.
- To support the work carried out in the classroom or prepare children for new topics.
- To provide reinforcement or development, as appropriate, to a child's needs in order to further attainment.
- To allow parents greater involvement in their child's education and strengthen home/school links.
- To nurture in our children a sense of responsibility, self-discipline towards work and to develop in them further good work-related habits such as organisational skills.
- To provide a step on the road to becoming an independent learner.
- To reinforce values education within the family setting.
- To prepare older pupils for the increased workloads at secondary school.

Please also refer to the school's Teaching for Learning Policy.

The school is aware of the pressures placed on the home environment and the organisational difficulties that homework can create. Past experience of our community response to homework means we have adapted our practice to best support our pupils and families with regard to pattern, regularity and amount of homework. Our focus remains on the development of core English and Maths skills. Class teachers value the support that parents can give to ensuring that work is undertaken to the best of each child's ability and will respond by supporting families where additional work is appropriate.

The workload should not be such as to overburden a child who has had a long and stimulating day in school, but the class teachers should ensure that any homework set:

- Has a clear learning objective, which can be understood by the child and the supporting adult.
- Is realistically time bonded e.g. is possible within the expected time bands suggested for each year group.
- Is differentiated in two ways, wherever possible, to meet the needs and abilities across the class, with additional adaptation for pupils with Special Educational Needs which meet their individual learning requirements or gifted pupils.
- Is based on the teaching/learning principles of our school.

Strategies

1. Each year group sends out termly Parent Planners, which contains topic information and useful websites and relevant places to visit. At the beginning of the year, staff will also go through homework procedures with parents during the year group's information meeting.
2. Each child has a reading diary. Parents are expected to sign the diary once the daily reading has been undertaken, and the diaries are checked in school regularly (see English policy).
3. Homework tasks follow the guidance of the Department for Education (DfE).

Year and Age	Amount	Type
Early Years 4-5 year olds	10 minutes a day	Daily reading / phonics
Years 1 and 2 5-7 year olds	15 minutes a day	Daily reading Maths activity, eg: Times Table Rock Stars or MyMaths English (e.g. comprehension, phonics, sentence level, spellings)
Years 3 and 4 7-9 year olds	20 minutes a day	Daily reading English (e.g. comprehension, grammar, sentence level) Maths including Times Table Rock Stars / MyMaths Topic work (<i>optional</i>)
Years 5 and 6 9-11 year olds	30 minutes per day	Daily reading English (e.g. comprehension, grammar, sentence level) Maths Times Table Rock Stars / MyMaths Topic work (<i>optional</i>)

If there is a problem with homework parents and carers are asked to contact the class teacher.

All homework for Key Stages 1 and 2 is set on Purple Mash on a Wednesday and must be completed by the following Wednesday.

During the school holidays, when possible, children should continue to read regularly and practise times tables.

The reading diaries should be used as a means to record communication between teachers and parents. Should there be issues about a child's completion of homework tasks parents are encouraged to contact their child's class teacher.

See Marking, Maths and English policies.