



Homework Policy

Policy Reviewed:	September 2022
Next Review:	September 2023

Homework Policy

Rationale

At Red Lane we believe that homework is a part of a child's education which allow them to extend their learning beyond the classroom whilst developing a sense of responsibility for their own learning. By consolidating the learning taken place within the classroom we encourage pupils to develop the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own, whilst developing an effective partnership between the school and parents and other carers in pursuing the aims of the school and working together to support our pupils in reaching their full potential.

The policy is reviewed at least annually and pupil and parent views are sought as part of this through the school improvement questionnaire as well as parent drop in sessions.

Aims

- To ensure consistency of approach across the school.
- To ensure progression towards independence and individual responsibility.
- To ensure the needs of the individual are taken into account and appropriate differentiation is provided.
- To improve the quality of the learning experience offered to individuals
- To ensure that parents or carers have a clear understanding of expectations for themselves and the pupil.
- To extend and support the learning experience by reinforcement and revision.
- To provide opportunities for parents, pupils and school to work in partnership.
- To provide opportunities for parents and pupils to work together to enjoy learning experiences.
- To prepare Year 6 pupils for secondary transfer.

Guidelines

The purpose of homework changes, as pupils get older. It is important that parents are aware of the role these activities play in developing their child's learning. As pupils get older homework provides an opportunity for them to develop the skills of independent learning. This should increasingly become its main purpose. Any homework set should reflect the individual needs of pupils and demonstrate appropriate differentiation.

Homework should not be such that it prevents pupils from participating in activities after school such as sports, music and clubs of many kind.

Homework should be used to consolidate skills and activities should not be provided that need to be 'taught' by parents.

There should be consistency in the homework given across a year group. Senior leaders will routinely monitor the consistency and procedures of homework as well as impact.

Under 3's

- Take home bags will be given on a rota to pupils containing different fun activities to complete at home with adult support.

Nursery

- Take home bags will be given on a rota to pupils containing different fun activities to complete at home with adult support.
- The Nursery Newsletter informs parents of 'Sound of the Week' and the next week's sound. Parents are encouraged to discuss which objects begin with that sound at home. The newsletter may contain other activity ideas such as 'go on an autumn walk and collect leaves.'
- For pupils who are ready and in order to support transition to Reception, phonics activities may be given during the Summer term.

Reception

- The weekly newsletter describes in class activities for the week and explains the topic to encourage learning and discussion at home at home.
- Take home bags will be given on a rota to pupils containing different fun activities to complete at home with adult support.
- Reading books are sent home in September and 10-15 minutes daily reading is expected.
- Weekly spellings are sent home on a Friday based on the current phonics sound or relevant high frequency words.

Key Stage 1

- 15-20 minutes of book sharing or reading, recorded in an individual reading record and monitored by the teaching staff within the class.
- The class with the best reading percentage will be counted up each week and rewarded in assembly with the class getting a book or reading treat.
- Weekly spellings of phonics patterns/spellings or keywords are sent and tested the following week.
- A maths worksheet based on basic number facts will be sent home weekly. This should focus on basics such as place value, addition and subtraction facts up to and including 10, doubling and halving.
- Pupils are encouraged to play Numbots at home (log ins are the same as Purple Mash) Spellings and Maths will be given out on Friday and collected on Thursday of the following week and then tested in class.
- At the start of each topic, the pupils will be given a 'Knowledge Organiser & Homework Sheet.' This will present a range of activities, linked to the topic that the pupils will complete. A number of activity ideas will be presented and knowledge tasks linked to the Knowledge Organiser.

Lower Key Stage 2

- 30 minutes a week maximum to consolidate learning taken place within class
- 15–20 minutes of daily reading, recorded in an individual reading recorded and monitored by the teaching staff within the class on a daily basis.
- The number of pupils reading at home will be monitored each week as a percentage and the winning class receives a certificate in celebration assembly.
- Weekly spellings (Spelling Shed) are given out on Friday and then tested the following Thursday after the children have had time to practise them.
- Pupils are encouraged to access TT Rockstars at home, and/or Numbots where directed.
- Y3 & 4 weekly Maths homework will focus on Multiplication facts.
- At the start of each topic, the pupils will be given a 'Knowledge Organiser & Homework Sheet.' This will present a range of activities, linked to the topic that the pupils will complete. A number of activity ideas will be presented and knowledge tasks linked to the Knowledge Organiser.
- The pupils without written homework will be given a red Dojo as a way of monitoring over the course of the term. Each week the percentage of written homework returned will be monitored and the winning class receives a certificate in celebration assembly.

Upper Key Stage 2

- Approximately 45 minutes to 1 hour a week to consolidate learning taken place within class.
- Before and After school booster sessions may contribute towards the 1-1.5 hours a week allocated homework time
- 15–20 minutes of daily reading, recorded in an individual reading recorded and monitored by the teaching staff within the class on a daily basis.
- The number of pupils reading at home will be monitored each week as a percentage and the winning class receives a certificate in celebration assembly.
- Weekly spellings (Spelling Shed) are given out on Friday and then tested the following Thursday after the children have had time to practise them.
- Pupils are encouraged to access TT Rockstars at home, and/or Numbots where directed.
- Y5 & 6 weekly Maths homework will focus on arithmetic skills.
- At the start of each topic, the pupils will be given a 'Knowledge Organiser & Homework Sheet.' This will present a range of activities, linked to the topic that the pupils will complete. A number of activity ideas will be presented and knowledge tasks linked to the Knowledge Organiser.
- The pupils without written homework will be given a red Dojo as a way of monitoring over the course of the term. Each week the percentage of written homework returned will be monitored and the winning class receives a certificate in celebration assembly.
- Booster materials may also be given. (Year 6)

In addition, in Key Stage 2, pupils may be given homework activities that include:

- Preparing a presentation for the class
- Finding out information

- Making something
- Trying out simple scientific experiments

Holiday Homework

The school recognises that for Year 6 pupils homework may be different than for other classes however this must be consistent across the year group. For the rest of the school, during October, February and May half term pupils will receive the same homework that they receive during term time. At Christmas there will be no homework sent home and reading books will be collected to prevent them getting lost. At Easter a small homework pack will be sent that contains a maths task, an English task, a handwriting task as well as spellings and reading. In the summer holidays parents will receive a pack of work that will support transition and maintain basic skills ready for the next year.

Parental Involvement

Parents are encouraged to support and help their pupils with the completion of homework as and when necessary. However, we also recognise that in order to encourage independence, we need to see what pupils can do on their own. As such we encourage parents to communicate with class teachers if their child has struggled and received additional support when consolidating learning. This can be through the child's Reading Record or Homework diary, verbally, in writing through a brief letter/note to the class, or by indicating on the child's homework. In this way the teacher can follow this up in class. Pupils will also have the opportunity to complete homework during 'Homework club.' At Red Lane we do recognise that not all parents will be able to support their pupils with their homework. This may be especially true for older pupils. Homework club will again offer an opportunity for pupils to gain extra support and the time required to complete homework.

Parents are informed of homework expectations and their role in supporting the school and their child during our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions and parent information packs delivered at the beginning of the new school year.

Collection and Marking of Homework

Homework is collected in each week. Pupils without written homework will be given a red Dojo as a way of monitoring over the course of the term. Each week the percentage of homework returned will be monitored.

Homework is marked in green pen with ticks for positive answers and comments where necessary. However, if there are obvious errors when completing homework, then there should be clear evidence, either within the marking or future planning, that these have been addressed. Homework is handed back to pupils and stored in red books in their trays.

This policy will be monitored as part of the school cycle of monitoring and evaluation and will be updated in June 2022 or before if necessary.