

Bradleys Both Community Primary School

## Homework Policy

### *What does Homework look like at our School?*

This document outlines the purpose of homework at our school and the way that we ask our children and parents to support learning outside of school time.

### **What is the purpose of Homework at our school?**

Homework provides opportunities for both our children and parents to share and support teaching and learning. The following are the key purposes:

- To reinforce teaching and learning from class
- To practice concepts, consolidate and embed learning
- To develop independence
- To learn to manage own time
- To teach children to take ownership over own learning
- To share learning with parents
- To celebrate learning with parents
- To encourage and promote scholarship and studying
- To develop creativity and confidence
- To prepare children for secondary school homework

### **How does Homework change as the children move through the school?**

Progression of homework is important as the children move through the school. In the Early Years Foundation Stage homework provides regular practice of core skills and by the time the children have moved into Year 6 the children's homework is focused more on using and applying key skills and knowledge. The quantity of homework will increase as the children move through the school in preparation for moving to Secondary school.

We aim to make homework tasks as creative as they can be to enable the children to learn through play, fun and real tasks.

### **Overview of progression of Homework tasks**

Year group	Content of Homework tasks	Further information
Early Years Reception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading and Phonics</li><li>• Packs to support Phonics</li><li>• Home School diary practical task</li></ul>	Weekly Autumn term weekly Weekly
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Weekly Phonics &amp; Spelling</li><li>• Daily regular Reading - range of reading scheme and sharing books</li></ul>	Weekly Weekly Ongoing

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access and use of IXL online Maths &amp; English subscription - areas guided by Class teacher based on learning within school</li> </ul>	
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly Phonics &amp; Spellings</li> <li>Daily regular Reading - range of reading scheme and sharing books</li> <li>Access and use of IXL online Maths &amp; English subscription - areas guided by Class teacher based on learning within school</li> </ul>	Weekly Weekly Ongoing
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly Phonics &amp; Spellings</li> <li>Regular Reading</li> <li>Multiplication tables (TT Rockstars)</li> <li>Use of IXL online Maths &amp; English subscription - areas guided by Class teacher based on learning within school</li> <li>Activity task linked to classroom learning in Topic</li> </ul>	Weekly Weekly Weekly Weekly  Within half term
Year 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly spellings</li> <li>Regular Reading</li> <li>Multiplication tables (TT Rockstars Subscription)</li> <li>Use of IXL online Maths &amp; English subscription - areas guided by Class teacher based on learning within school</li> <li>Activity task linked to classroom learning in English, Maths or Topic</li> </ul>	Weekly Weekly Weekly Weekly Within half term
Year 5	Homework timetable created with children An agreed timetable for handing homework will be created. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly spellings</li> <li>Reading - book</li> <li>Multiplication tables (TT Rockstars)</li> <li>Use of IXL online Maths &amp; English subscription - areas guided by Class teacher based on learning within school</li> <li>Maths task OR additional English task focused on Topic or Science</li> </ul>	Weekly Weekly Ongoing Weekly  Within half term
Year 6	Homework timetable created with children Homework book used. An agreed timetable for handing homework will be created. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly spellings</li> <li>Reading - extended chosen book</li> <li>Multiplication Tables (TT Rockstars)</li> <li>Task focused on Topic or Science</li> <li>Preparation for end of year assessments</li> <li>Use of IXL online Maths &amp; English subscription - areas guided by Class teacher based on learning within school</li> </ul>	Weekly Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing Fortnightly Spring term Autumn & Spring
	The Year 6 children are expected to take greater responsibility for completing and handing in homework on time	

Homework will be phased in over the first few weeks of a new school year. There may be times of the year where this changes depending on the needs of the children or school events. At times project

tasks, research tasks, practical tasks and creative tasks may be set where children share approaches to learning, apply their knowledge and understanding and develop an enjoyment for learning.

## **Use of online subscriptions to support, consolidate and embed learning**

IXL Mathematics and English Subscription (<https://uk.ixl.com/>)

Our school has subscribed to the IXL online Maths and English resource for all children who attend our school. This resource is planned to be used to further support our children with revising and reinforcing learning through practising both in and out of school. Year group learning overviews are provided with resources and tasks set for each aspect of the curriculum. The use of this resource is guided by the children's class teachers and provides home and school with feedback on individual's achievements. Teachers monitor an overview of both engagement and achievement through this resource.

Times Table Rockstars subscription

This online subscription is provided to encourage the children in gaining confidence and pace in recalling their multiplication tables. An element of competition and challenge is provided through individual, class group and year group engagement.

## **How is feedback given on Homework?**

Homework is reviewed by Class Teachers and praise given to children for their effort, approach and time spent on homework. With the youngest children and on occasions with our older children this can be in the form of verbal feedback. This can also be in the form of a written comment, a sticker or a stamp to celebrate the children's completion of the work.

IXL and TT Rockstars subscriptions provide instant feedback to children on their achievements and report outcomes and engagement to class teachers.

Spellings and multiplication tables will be tested and feedback given through the marking of the test in class.

Homework tasks will be marked in accordance with our school marking policy. Deep marking will only be carried out when the work will be developed further in class for example where a piece of topic work has been completed at home and is then being used to develop the classwork. Deep marking of homework tasks is not expected.

It is really useful to know when parents have helped children with the homework and supported them. In school we use a letter 'S' as an annotation to show this. This feedback is important when reviewing children's grasp and understanding of concepts. Parents are encouraged to annotate where they have provided support.

The children should receive supportive comments for completing their homework and will have mistakes with spellings, calculations and facts identified within feedback.

Feedback on homework will take a variety of forms including; verbal feedback, whole class feedback, peer to peer feedback and written feedback depending on the task.

## **How can parents help their child at home?**

- Show an interest in the children's learning
- Listen to children read regularly at home and share different genres of texts
- Encourage the children to explain their work or strategy to parents - this consolidates their own grasp of the concept or strategy
- Provide a quiet space at home for the children to complete homework
- Let the child's teacher know if their child has needed a lot of support or help
- Inform school if for any reason their child has been unable to complete homework
- Make the decision for their child not to complete homework due to their child being ill or too tired
- Encourage the children to follow a regular routine for completing their homework

**Please note:** Homework will **not** be set for unauthorised absences from school e.g. family holiday during term time.

## **Further ways to support children at home.**

There are many additional ways that parents are able to support their children with learning outside of school time. These are purely suggestions of other ways that parents can engage their children in learning at home:

- Shared reading comics, newspapers, non-fiction, leaflets, online texts
- Use of websites such as:
  - [www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies](http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies)
  - [www.bbc.co.uk/newsround](http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround)
  - [www.ictgames.co.uk](http://www.ictgames.co.uk)
  - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/levels/z3g4d2p> (Key Stage 1 Bitesize)
  - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/levels/zbr9wmn> (Key Stage 2 Bitesize)
- Supermarket shopping challenges - finding totals / finding change
- Phonics around ourselves
- Use of internet to research class topics
- Keeping a diary
- Holiday journal writing
- Visit the local library

This is not an exhaustive list of websites. There are many other useful and helpful online resources available.

## **Working together**

Homework tasks should be familiar to the children and something that they have already met in school and class. Children should not be being set tasks which require parents to teach concepts.

We value parent support and interest in the children's learning at Bradleys Both. Homework is something that we know our school community has mixed views about. Parent workshops are arranged each year to share approaches to teaching strategies to help parents support their children with the same approaches and strategies. Any parent requiring further support is encouraged to approach their child's teacher in the first instance.