

Homework Policy

1. We believe that children learn best when parents, the school and children work together in partnership

2. Our homework policy aims.

2.1 We are consistent in our approach when we give homework, with its content and how it should be completed.

2.2 We support children's learning, by reinforcing skills learnt in class and by encouraging independent research skills.

2.3 We Encourage children to develop personal organisation skills.

2.4 We take account of the needs of the individual child.

2.5 We ensure parents and carers understand what is expected of them.

2.6 We make homework manageable, meaningful and enjoyable for parents, teachers and children.

3. Ways in which parents can support children's learning at home:

3.1 Try and hear them read every day (as little as 5 minutes will do!)

3.2 Give them help and encouragement. Try and get involved and above all talk to them about their learning and listen to what they tell you.

3.3 If you have access to the Internet, there are many websites that can help your child explore the subjects they are learning at school. There will be some useful links on our school website.

3.4 During school holidays, continue to hear them read and revise their times tables

4. The following information is consistent across the whole school from Year 1 upwards.

4.1 At Downe Manor Primary School, homework is done in a clearly labelled exercise book and it is the parents/child's responsibility to ensure that the work is either done in the book or if it is done on a prepared sheet, that sheet is stuck in the book.

4.2 Homework consists of –

- A piece of English which includes a set of spellings that the children are tested on.
- A piece of maths work which includes tasks and games to achieve pupils mental maths targets (see Maths Passport).

4.3 Homework should take a minimum of 20 minutes and a maximum of 1 hour

4.4 Homework will either reinforce what the children have been learning in class or will prepare them for future learning.

4.5 Homework may include some additional French vocabulary for children to learn (Key Stage Two only)

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4.6 Homework is matched to the children's ability

4.6 Homework is marked by the teacher using the school marking policy.

4.7 Children who do not return homework may be kept in by the teacher to complete the work during break time.

5. Foundation Stage:

5.1 In the Nursery, children choose a book with a member of staff once a week. Parents are strongly encouraged to read the book with their child and discuss it with them.

5.2 In Reception, in the first term at least there is no difference from the Nursery but as confidence grows and the school year progresses letter sounds and basic number work will be sent home to revise and learn.

6. Year 6 and children who are having extra support:

6.1 In year 6 in preparation for their transition to secondary school and to help them prepare for SATs in English and Maths, extra homework may be set throughout the week. Children having extra support in other year groups may also be set homework by the member of staff working with them.

7. Reading diary

7.1 Children learn to read best when they can be heard and they can share their reading. All children should try to read for a minimum of 10 minutes a day and read to an adult at least twice a week but ideally every day.

7.2 Parents/carers should sign the log and children must bring it in every day in their book bag with their reading book. Teachers check reading logs regularly.

7.3 The reading diary is also used to record guided reading and individual reading in school.