



The Grove Junior School



Homework Policy

Date adopted by the Governing Body: July 2011

Date amended: November 2015

Date for review: November 2016

Headteacher: Maggie Clifford

Chair of Governors: Sharon Wyper

Held by: School Improvement Committee.

## **Homework Policy**

### **Aims**

The aim of our homework policy is to promote learning beyond the school day as an essential part of good education. We believe that homework not only reinforces classroom learning, it also helps children and young people to develop skills and attitudes that they need for successful lifelong learning. It should support the development of independent learning skills, including the habits of enquiry and investigation, and it should help to foster the role of parents and carers as co-educators of their children. We will make every effort to combat disadvantage, for example by considering the need for study support with access to resources such as ICT and mentoring.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

The **headteacher** will ensure that:

- Homework is an integral part of the curriculum and is planned and prepared alongside all other programmes of learning
- Homework is appropriate to the age, ability and circumstances of the pupils, taking into account special educational needs
- Homework is coordinated in order to be manageable for children
- A homework club is provided for those pupils who find it difficult to complete at home

**Teachers** will ensure that:

- Pupils and parents are given an outline for homework at the start of the academic year
- Homework is set and marked in line with guidance and agreed standards
- Tasks are, where appropriate, differentiated and well structured
- Pupils understand the purpose of the homework tasks
- It is clear to pupils how their homework consolidates and extends the work they are doing in school
- Pupils receive written and verbal feedback and rewards such as stickers and house points for effort
- That pupils who find it difficult to complete work at home are directed to use the homework club facility

**Pupils** will ensure that:

- They record the homework tasks in the home/school planner
- They check their understanding of the tasks
- They spend an allocated time completing the tasks set
- They return their work on time
- They attend homework club if it has not been possible to complete the work at home

**Parents will:**

- Encourage and monitor homework
- Inform their child's teacher if an issue arises
- Encourage their child(ren) to attend homework club if they have not been able to complete tasks at home

**Homework Tasks**

**All Year Groups**

**Reading** – Pupils are required to keep a record of what they read at home. A short written response to the text from either the pupil or an adult is encouraged. The expectation is that pupils will read and record their reading at least three times a week.

**Spellings** – Pupils are given a different list of spellings to learn and understand. Children will be tested through dictated sentences once a week.

**Multiplication tables** – Pupils are aware of what multiplication tables they should be learning and are tested regularly.

**Years 3, 4 and 5 – Homework is generally Learning Logs one week and My Maths the alternate week.**

**Learning Logs** - There will be three choices of activity and the child is encouraged to discuss and plan their response with a parent/carer. Children are encouraged to develop their thinking skills through this arrangement and are given choice in their task outcome to help motivate and develop originality and independent learning. Teachers will collect in the learning Logs once the work is complete and by the deadline set and respond with comments and rewards for effort.

*On occasion, pupils may be given a subject specific task instead of the learning log.*

**My Maths** - Pupils are advised if there is a My Maths task and the date that it should be completed.

**Year 6** – There is a slight variation for year 6 pupils, with weekly My Maths and a written activity.

**Arrangements for monitoring and evaluation**

The Senior Leadership Team and Subject Leaders will monitor Learning Logs and Home/School Planners and monitor how well homework tasks are being completed. Pupils are consulted regularly about homework via our school monitoring system and parents via whole school surveys, and our half termly parents' forum.