

West Pennard Church of England Primary School

HOMEWORK POLICY

United Nations Conventions of the Rights of the Child:

Article 29: Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.

In keeping with the aims of the school we believe it important that the children's learning should be both supported and extended through an effective partnership with the parents. Through our Homework policy we aim to:

- ensure that the needs of the individual are taken into account
- improve the quality of learning experience offered to the pupils
- extend and support the learning experience through either refinement, practice, investigation or revision tasks
- ensure that parents have a clear understanding about expectations from themselves and the pupils
- ensure consistency of approach throughout the school
- encourage increasing independence in personal study
- provide opportunity for parents, pupils and the school to work in partnership enjoying their learning experiences
- prepare the pupils for the increasing rigours of secondary school education

To fulfil these aims the homework programme will take full regard of the age of the pupils. In the early years the amount and variety of tasks will consist mainly of reading and short activities. As the children get older the homework will provide the opportunity for children to develop skills of independent learning. It is important that a regular habit of study develops although we do believe children must also have time to enjoy a full range of activities outside the realms of academic learning.

In line with government legislation we believe a sensible programme of home activities should apply and our allocation for the year groups recommends:

Reception	Short reading tasks/phonic bookmarks
Years 1 & 2	1 hour per week
Years 3 & 4	1.5hrs per week
Years 5 & 6	30 minutes per day

These timings would include daily reading. Children also benefit from reading aloud to you on a regular basis even if they are fluent readers.

The programme will commence when classes are settled in routines. We believe that an increasing homework 'routine' is essential and parents will be informed through class letters about their child's programme and when work should be returned. Many tasks will be of an investigative nature and will be designed to complement different aspects of study in school.

It is important that pupils return completed tasks and any borrowed books on time. This is because homework so often feeds into subsequent lessons and anyone who has not completed tasks will be disadvantaged. It must be acknowledged that unless pupils are sick or offer a valid reason for not bringing back homework on time then it will not be marked.

We expect all children to complete homework and in signing the home school agreement both parent and child agree to supporting the homework policy. We believe the children will benefit the most if parents support their children with their homework. When supporting your child with written tasks, please:

- discuss the task before commencing and give advice if necessary
- read through drafts advising on grammar, punctuation and spelling
- only consider correcting commonly used spellings and encourage the children to identify errors through careful checking.

It is not normal procedure for children to be provided with work if they are absent from school as we believe that children need time to recover before returning to school.

Should any parent require information to support a child with homework then please contact the class teacher for clarification. If a child becomes anxious about any aspect of homework then please make the class teacher aware.

It is hoped that through the homework programme the link between the home and the school will be strengthened.

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Homework Programme

Year R	Pre-reading games/numeracy based games Sharing stories Reading when children are ready to start the reading scheme Letter / numeral formation tasks Spellings/phonic 'bees' when children are ready
Years 1 & 2	Reading scheme – taken home daily Spellings/phonic 'bees' Numeracy task weekly
Year 3	Daily reading from reading scheme or free choice books Spelling, grammar and punctuation tasks/phonics 'bees' Numeracy task/Multiplication tables Occasional topic-related tasks
Year 4	Daily reading from reading scheme or free choice books Spelling, grammar and punctuation tasks Multiplication tables/Numeracy task
Year 5	Daily reading from reading scheme or free choice books Spelling, grammar and punctuation tasks Numeracy Occasional topic related tasks
Year 6	Daily reading from choice of materials Spellings Numeracy Literacy Occasional topic task SAT revision tasks as required

NB Reading books are not taken home on enrichment days