



West Pennard C of E Primary School

Homework Policy

November 2021

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Ratified by Chair of Governors

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November 2022

WEST PENNARD C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOMEWORK POLICY

Our school vision...

**'Since God so loved us, so we must love one another'
(1 John 4 v11)**

***Valuing our Christian foundation, we care for each other and our world.
We develop resilience, confidence, creativity and independence through our innovative and diverse curriculum; inspiring and motivating everyone to thrive.
Our motto, 'To Try is to Triumph' and growing Christian Values, are central to all that we do.***

We link this policy with our Christian values of:

- ❖ **Truthfulness**
- ❖ **Compassion**
- ❖ **Friendship**
- ❖ **Thankfulness**
- ❖ **Respect**
- ❖ **Forgiveness**

We believe: that children learn best when they can reinforce the skills they learn at school in a range of contexts, over a period of time and independently. Homework activities are given to support and extend their learning.

This policy aims to:

- Raise achievement;
- Ensure a consistency of approach throughout the school;
- Ensure teachers, parents and carers have a clear understanding about expectations of themselves and pupils.

Key Principles.

- The amount and difficulty of homework is tailored according to the child's age and ability.
- Sufficient time is allowed for the completion of homework to allow for a healthy home/school work balance.
- As the children progress through the school, the amount of homework increases.
- Teachers incorporate homework into their weekly planning and ensure that the tasks are differentiated, purposeful and aimed at developing and consolidating basic skills.
- Teachers provide parents and pupils with clear learning objectives and motivational instructions for tasks as well as clear examples of work to guide both children and adults.
- High expectations for neat presentation are in place to ensure that children maintain a similar high standard of work at home as in school.

Reading: We believe that the most important homework activity is **regular reading**. Suggested reading times are 5-10 minutes in Reception increasing to 30 minutes by Year 5 & 6. There is an expectation that reading at home will happen at least 4 times a week and preferably daily. It is important for parents / carers to read with children and to discuss books, pictures and stories, even when they are in Year 6. Parents and children should use the school planners to record reading completed at home. This will be checked by the class teacher. Reading 4 times a week at home will gain a code to access the School vending Machine and receive an age-appropriate book.

Spelling: Children will receive weekly spelling homework linked to the spelling patterns they are learning in class. This homework will be differentiated three ways using the chili challenge format which children are familiar with. For those learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), a similar format will be used but learners will focus on High Frequency Words (HFW) in order to support their spelling fluency.

Online Work: Years 2-6 will have TTRockStars (timetables tables practice), Doodle Spell/English and Doodle Maths. Children are encouraged to use these programs regularly at home to reinforce key skills and the learning that they do in school. Log in details will be provided by the class teacher.

Maths: Tasks to reinforce learning in Maths will usually be given weekly. These are to reinforce learning in class and will be differentiated three ways using the chili challenge format which children are familiar with.

Setting and Collecting Homework: Homework tasks will be set on Fridays using Google Classroom by the individual class teachers and will be due on the following Friday. Work handed in on time will be marked, where appropriate to do so, and records kept. Homework is not compulsory (apart from in Year 6) and therefore will not be requested if the parent has written a note in the child's planner to say that they are not completing the homework activity this week. In KS2, if there is not a note then the teacher will make arrangements for the child to complete the work at break/lunch time. As a parent it is for you to decide what you would like your child to do. Homework will not be set in the holidays.

Year 6: Homework is compulsory for Year 6 children to reflect the development of their independent studying skills required in preparedness for secondary school. If a child has a particular difficulty with homework, if they speak to the class teacher, they can work together to find a suitable solution. It is advisable for children to start homework early in case support is needed.

Additional Tasks: will be available if you request them. Speak to the class teacher or add a comment into the school planner.

This policy was updated following parent consultation at the beginning of the Autumn term 2022.