



Homework Policy:

Reviewed June 2016
Approved: July 2016
Review: July 2019

Introduction

The school policy for homework was developed with the pupils, parents, staff and governors of Oliver's Battery Primary School.

At Oliver's Battery Primary School we are very keen for parents to support and help their children with homework. We take the view that children are likely to get more out of an activity if parents get involved as long as they do not take over too much. However, there are times when we will want to see what children can do on their own. It is particularly important, as they get older, for children to become increasingly independent in their learning. If a parent is unsure about what their role should be, they should discuss it with their child's teacher.

Aims

Through this policy we aim to:

- Ensure that parents are clear about what their child is expected to do.
- Ensure consistency of approach throughout the school.
- Use homework as a tool to help continue to raise standards of attainment.
- Provide opportunities for parents, children and the school to work together in partnership in relation to children's learning.
- Encourage pupils and their parents to share and enjoy learning experiences.
- Reinforce work covered in class by providing further opportunities for individual learning.
- Practise or consolidate basic skills and knowledge.
- Encourage children to develop the responsibility, confidence and self-discipline needed to study independently.

The Nature of Homework

It should be noted that homework can be set in many different forms with many different expectations and outcomes. It is important to remember that when expecting and setting homework there are a number of points to consider:

- Homework should not cause undue stress on the child, family or the teacher.
- It will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.
- Homework should be set regularly from the Foundation Stage to Year 6.
- Holidays are holidays and homework will not be set however daily reading is always recommended.

Homework Tasks

Listed below are a number of example tasks and activities that might be given as homework. This is by no means an exhaustive list and is open to constant change, although many of these tasks and activities will be used on a regular basis. Homework activities will change to meet the needs of the pupils involved and activities that might be occurring in class. All homework tasks and activities will have a clear purpose and assist pupils in the process of their academic development.

Foundation Stage

These may include:

- Reading books and key words
- Counting up and down stairs, number of jumps, number of tins etc.
- Reciting nursery and counting rhymes.
- Identification of shapes in the environment.
- Fastening and unfastening buttons and zips and tying shoelaces – getting dressed and undressed etc.

Year 1 and Year 2

These may include:

- Reading books and key words
- Learning spellings
- Learning number facts against curriculum expectations
- Half termly topic homework (choice from homework grid)

Year 3 to Year 6

These may include:

- Reading
- Spellings
- Learning number facts against curriculum expectations
- Half termly topic homework (choice from homework grid)

Foundation Stage (Home Curriculum Book)

Year 1 (A4 book plain blue)

Year 2 (A4 book plain yellow)

Year 3 (A4 book plain purple)

Year 4 (A4 book plain red)

Year 5 (A4 book green)

Year 6 (A4 book plain pink)

Role of the Class Teacher

- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine.
- To ensure any homework is purposeful.
- To mark homework appropriately, when necessary and give feedback to pupils.
- To set homework that takes equal and racial opportunities into account.

Role of Parents/Carers

- To support the school by ensuring that their child attempts the homework.
- To encourage and praise their child when they have completed their homework.

General

Wherever appropriate staff will mark any homework that is returned by pupils, this will help to give the whole process of setting and completing homework a higher profile and status. It will also send out the message that homework is an important and valued aspect of school life. Marking homework is a way of keeping track of who has completed their homework, and giving them feedback on how well they have met the objectives of the work. However, marking may be done in a variety of forms, some of which will not be written. Feedback may be given to individual pupils, or to groups of pupils.

If children are absent due to illness we will not send homework home. We would assume the child was too ill to work.

If a child is absent for a length of time e.g. with a broken leg, the teacher and the parent will agree what should be done, how it should be marked and what sort of help needs to be given. **In such circumstances the teacher should consult the Head Teacher first.**

Parents/Carers who have queries about homework should not hesitate to make an appointment to see their child's class teacher.