



Mendlesham Primary School

Homework Policy

Name: _____ Date: _____

By understanding the uniqueness of each child, our school provides opportunities in a safe and caring environment for all to enjoy learning for life.

Rationale

The purpose of homework is to consolidate the learning which takes place at school. It also provides a means by which parents can keep in touch with their child's learning and offer support. Much research indicates that parental engagement with their child's learning and resultant partnership between school and family has a positive influence on learning outcomes and hence future life chances.

Having looked at the research on the most effective homework, we have decided that little and often is the best approach to building the skills required.

Many every day activities at home can support a child's learning, including cooking, shopping, gardening and playing games such as board games.

Reading

Reading is a crucial life skill. Children begin their journey to becoming a reader at home as babies through their parents speaking to them and reading to them. At this point they will be learning the purpose and meaning of spoken word as well as expression, joy and humour.

During their Primary School years their journey continues through the linking of sounds to words, both spoken and written (the learning of phonics). As they get older, the majority of their learning will be based on the written word and access to the curriculum at secondary school will depend on it.

Our aim is that children will leave us at the end of year 6 as confident readers with a passion for reading a variety of texts. With this in mind we have the following expectation:

All children are expected to read at home 3 – 4 times a week. This would usually be their school reading book, but can be any book they are reading as long as it is recorded in their reading log. We also encourage continued reading to your children – even into year 6!

Willow Class (EYFS)

Children will be offered the following:

- High frequency words
- Phonics practice
- Maths games to share

We anticipate that around 30 minutes per week is plenty – allowing lots of time for outdoor play, games etc

Elm Class (KS1)

- Weekly spellings to practice
- Phonic sounds
- Times tables/number bonds practise as appropriate to your child

We anticipate that a maximum of 1 hour per week, including reading would be sufficient time spent on this learning.

Oak Class (Lower KS2)

- Weekly spelling practise (assessed weekly)
- Times tables as appropriate to your child (assessed weekly)
- Weekly activity picked from a table of activities

We anticipate a maximum of 90 minutes per week, including reading to an adult would be sufficient time spent on this learning.

Chestnut Class (Upper KS2)

- Weekly spelling practise (assessed weekly), plus words from y3/4 and 5/6 word lists ½ termly
- Weekly times tables/mental maths as appropriate to your child (assessed weekly)
- Weekly maths – consolidated from class work
- Weekly punctuation/grammar work consolidated from class work

We anticipate a maximum of 2 hours per week, including reading to an adult would be sufficient time spent on this learning.

Expectations

- Homework should be completed and handed in on time
- Pupils or their parents should approach the teacher for help if required before the work is due to be handed in
- Pupils will be given a pass mark for spellings and mental maths in Chestnut Class. They will be offered additional support during the school day to achieve this.
- Please help to support your child by looking over their work to make sure they have not misunderstood the task.

Support

- Homework will be differentiated to meet the needs of your child eg book bands, variety of spellings etc.
- Children will be offered support to complete their homework during the school day if they have not had time to complete it at home. Or in the case of Chestnut Class, if they have not had time to practice their spellings etc. This time may be found during some afternoon lesson times if possible, but otherwise for short periods eg. 5-10 minutes at play or lunchtime.
- Please speak with your class teacher if you feel your child is struggling with any element of their school work.