

REMEMBER

DO SHOW AN INTEREST IN YOUR CHILD'S HOMEWORK

DO PROVIDE THE TIME AND SPACE FOR THEM TO COMPLETE TASKS

DO PRAISE THEIR EFFORTS EVEN IF THEY COULDN'T DO EVERYTHING

DON'T CONTINUE WITH A TASK IF YOUR CHILD IS GETTING STRESSED

DON'T MAKE EXCUSES FOR YOUR CHILD—IF THEY HAVEN'T FINISHED HOMEWORK DESPITE YOUR SUPPORT THEY NEED TO FACE THE CONSEQUENCES

WOOTTON WAWEN CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOME LEARNING

How to support your
child with their
homework.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this booklet is to provide information for parents so that they can support their children with their homework.

Homework is a way of:

- Consolidating and reinforcing skills taught at school particularly in maths and English.
- Using home resources to support and extend children's learning.
- Encouraging children to gain the confidence and self-discipline needed to study on their own
- Preparing older pupils for the requirements of secondary school
- Developing an effective partnership between home and school

BASIC PRINCIPLES

The length of time spent on homework and the nature of the homework will vary according to the age of the pupil.

Homework is most effective when undertaken on a regular basis.

Homework should provide an opportunity for children to develop the skill of independent learning.

Some of the tasks set will require active involvement of parents; it is NOT however a test of parents' knowledge !

Homework will not always involve recorded work.

Homework must be manageable for pupils, teachers and parents.

RESPONSIBILITIES

ROLE OF THE HEADTEACHER:

- To provide a homework club on a weekly basis

ROLE OF THE CLASS TEACHER:

- To set up regular homework in an easily followed routine
- To ensure that homework is purposeful and links directly to what is being taught
- To mark homework and provide feedback to the pupils
- To monitor homework praising those who show a positive attitude and supporting those who don't

ROLE OF THE CHILD:

- To make sure that they know what homework has been set
- To complete homework neatly and hand it in on time

ROLE OF THE PARENTS:

- To support the school by making sure that their child attempts any homework set
- To provide an appropriate space for them in which to do their homework
- To show the child that they value homework by encouraging them to complete it neatly and on time.
- To be actively involved in homework tasks, particularly with time management and guiding older children with research skills

WE ENCOURAGE CHILDREN TO USE TECHNOLOGY FOR HOMEWORK TASKS BUT APPRECIATE THAT NOT EVERYONE HAS ACCESS TO COMPUTERS AND THE INTERNET. CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO COME TO HOMEWORK CLUB AND MAKE USE OF THE SCHOOL'S I.T. FACILITIES.

NUMERACY PASSPORTS

At Wootton Wawen we believe that one of the most important ways you can help your child at home is to support them in developing a quick recall of the basic number facts and vocabulary that are the building blocks for all other areas of maths.

To do this we use Numeracy Passports and the Schofield Sims Mental Maths books.

The Numeracy Passport provides your child's school maths targets; they will work on these in school but they need to be reinforced at home.

Look in the class web links on the portal (resources) for useful games and activities to help with this.

Copies of the targets for each objective are also on the portal

TALK HOMEWORK

Every three weeks or so your child will take part in Big Writing. Before any Big Write they will be given Talk homework to help them prepare.

The premise of Big Writing is "If the children can't say it, they can't write it." Therefore we need to develop extended conversations - and this is something parents and carers can do to help their child improve their writing skills.

To support Talk Homework it is a good idea if as many family members as possible join in. Encourage everyone to give their opinions and use the word 'because' to explain why—contrasting opinions are always a good way to get a conversation flowing!

KEYSTAGE ONE

It is essential that when children leave Key stage One they have mastered the basic skills of reading (including phonics), writing (including being able to correctly spell the high frequency words) and maths (including number bonds and early tables facts)

The recommended time allocation for homework at Key Stage One is **1 hour per week**. This does not include time when you are reading to your child which is very important at this early stage as you are modelling to your child the enjoyment of reading.

FOCUS FOR HOMEWORK

This is a general guide and may vary from time to time.

RECEPTION:

- Regular reading and discussion of books— library books sent home 3 x a week. Reading books changed twice a week
- Word practice

YEAR ONE AND TWO:

- Daily reading (reading with and reading to your child))
- Weekly spellings
- Numeracy passport targets 3 x a week*
- Other Maths and English tasks may be set to practice skills learnt in class

TALK HOMEWORK—Big Writing is set every three weeks and Talk Homework will be brought home by your child before each Big Write.

* Passport targets for each continent can be found on the portal.

KEY STAGE TWO

At Key stage Two as well as basic skills homework, which concentrate on English and Maths skills, longer term projects or topics will also be set.

These will be explained on each class's curriculum newsletter, which is sent out in the first week of each term. If further information on the task is necessary your child will receive further written instructions so parents are fully aware of the expectations of the project.

Teachers will also make sure that these tasks are on the portal along with any useful web links

Teachers will set homework at the beginning of the week and it should be returned by Monday morning. This provides flexibility for planning when to complete tasks.

The recommended time allocation for KS2 is as follows

YEARS THREE AND FOUR:

One and a half hours per week

- Daily Reading
- Weekly spellings
- Weekly exercises in maths and English
- Numeracy targets 3 x a week
- Talk homework for Big Write every three weeks

YEARS FIVE AND SIX:

Between two and two and a half hours a week.

- Daily Reading
- Weekly spellings
- Weekly exercises in maths and English
- Numeracy Passport targets 3 x a week
- Talk Homework for Big Write every three weeks

Teachers may also set an extended project linked to the topic which will be on the curriculum newsletter and portal.

In Year 6 children will not only be preparing for the end of Key Stage SATs but also for the demands of secondary school. During the period between January and May they should expect the amount of homework to increase as they begin their revision.

HELPING YOUR CHILD WITH HOMEWORK

Homework can often be a battleground between parents and children so here are a few suggestions to help keep things calm.

- Set up a homework friendly area.
- Involve your child in planning when they are going to do their homework
- Don't ask your child to do homework when they are tired or hungry
- Always insist that your child has a go first, it is fine to help them with the bits they couldn't manage afterwards
- If a child is really struggling don't force the issue, put a note on the work for the teacher who will follow it up.