



Homework Policy

Member of staff responsible: Headteacher

Governor responsible: Curriculum

Headteacher's signature...Mrs Groom

Review date: July 2021

Next review date July 2022



Homework

July 2021

'From small beginnings come great things' The Parable of the Mustard Seed

Matthew 13: 31-32

We will apply our Christian and British values, complemented by our small-school benefits; balancing each child's educational, pastoral and emotional needs to deliver an exceptional, personalised journey, enabling them to flourish in our school family and in the future.

At Cadmore End we provide all children with homework to enable them to practise skills and learning they have already done in school. Sometimes the aim is to repeat something done in class as a practise exercise. On other times, the homework will ask children to apply their learning to a new context. At all times, however, children will not be given work to do at home that they have not learned in school unless it is a project which asks them to find out about something new. For example, to do their own project about the Romans.

We define homework as any activity that pupils undertake outside of school lesson time, either on their own or with the support of family members.

Why give homework?

- It can inform parents about work going on in class;
- It can further stimulate enthusiasm for learning;
- It takes advantage of the home environment and resources and the chance for one-to-one adult time;
- It can be a great source for gathering topic information to share with all the children;
- It is a great opportunity to rehearse key skills such as times tables, doubling facts, addition sums, spellings, handwriting and other key facts;
- It helps to foster good habits of organisation and self-discipline in preparation for the demands of Secondary School.

Homework at our school

Whilst we support all of the above key principles, Cadmore End is not a school at which homework dominates home and school life. We accept that not every activity will capture children and parents' imagination and that weekends can sometimes be busy. We believe that homework should be enjoyable and manageable for all concerned and that if it becomes a chore/burden/source of conflict it ceases to be a constructive aspect of teaching and learning.

We do not specify amounts of time that must be spent on a task, preferring individual children and families to set their own routines. Individual teachers are happy to give advice.

We hope the children are motivated by positive incentives and by the tasks themselves; children are not punished if they fail to complete the work. However discreet homework registers are kept and if a child consistently fails to complete and return tasks, this is discussed with the child and their parents.

Our routines and expectations

All classes give out weekly homework on a Friday. It is expected to be returned by the following Wednesday.

The work should always have been explained and discussed in class before coming home; it may be a continuation of classwork, or a maths games already familiar to your child. It is our intention, and good practice, not to send work home that the child cannot already do i.e. parents are not expected to teach new skills.

There should be a clear explanation/reminder from the teacher of what is expected.

Each child has a homework book and the majority of tasks are kept in there. Homework books should be returned on the Wednesday for marking.

Broadly speaking these are current expectations:

Nursery – sharing books and communicating with school via Evidence Me.

Reception – daily reading, learning key words. From the Spring term there are optional homework tasks set each half term to support the topic covered.

Year 1 and 2 – daily reading, weekly spelling tasks and maths and English/topic. Some tasks can be completed independently, some of the tasks will involve paired work with your child.

Years 3 and 4 – daily reading, spellings, a written and maths task

Years 5 and 6 - daily reading, spellings, a written and maths task. Year 6 will be given SATS work during the spring term

We expect children to maintain the same standards for presentation of homework as we set in school i.e. to use their best handwriting and a sharp pencil or blue pen (pen licence children only).

As far as possible, homework will be related to class topics. This is important as it helps parents to know more about what is going on in class and to support enthusiasm for learning. Parents might, for example, find themselves supporting research of Egyptian Gods, finding out about grandparents'

experience of school or measuring objects around the home. This also means that each child can pursue a set task at their own level of ability.

During Spring Term, prior to SAT tests, the Year 6 children will be given additional revision work.

It is our policy not to give homework over the holidays and half term breaks.

Our additional needs teachers may send specific tasks home to support the learning of the children they support. Again, this will be discussed with parents.

If you take holiday during term-time, something we actively discourage, parents may not request work from the teacher. We suggest that parents organise a holiday diary.

What to do if you have concerns

If you find the homework inappropriate for your child, if they lack interest, if it becomes a battleground or if you are concerned that homework is given inconsistently, please talk with your child's teacher in the first instance.

If you still have concerns, please talk with Mrs Groom, the Headteacher.