

HOMEWORK POLICY



Latest review undertaken on 19th January
2012

By the Curriculum Sub-Committee

Ratified by the Full Governing Body on 23rd
February 2012

Next review: Spring term 2014

Introduction

A good, well-managed homework programme helps children to develop the skills and attitudes they will need for successful lifelong learning. Homework also supports the development of independent learning skills and provides parents with an opportunity to take part in their children's education.

Learning at home is an essential part of good education. Regular homework is important as it gives pupils the opportunity to consolidate and practice at home the tasks covered in class, and helps the pupils work towards improving important skills.

It also helps children and young people to become confident and independent in their learning, which will help throughout their time at the Academy and in adult life.

Definition of homework

Homework or activities that pupils are asked to do outside lesson time either on their own or with parents or carers. It should include a range of tasks that are purposeful, enjoyable and varied.

Hadrian activities include:-

- **Regular** reading with parents – 5 out of 7 days
This can be their class reading book, a library book, personal books, weekly comic or a school book box book.
- **Weekly**, Learning Log, finding out and preparing information – 1 out of 7 days
This will be given out each Friday and must be returned by the following Wednesday.

Homework should not;

- Involve finishing off written work carried out in class

Very occasionally, individuals may be asked to complete work at home as a consequence of not completing tasks in a given time because they have been misbehaving or not concentrating/ day dreaming. This is not homework, as time was provided in lesson time that they chose not to use.

Purpose of homework

1. To develop a home-school partnership (In line with the Home-School Agreement).
2. To consolidate and reinforce skills and understanding in literacy, numeracy, science and some foundation subjects such as history and geography.
3. To extend school learning

Amount of homework

Foundation Stage- yr R

- Regularly share and read books. Five days out of seven days each week.
- A weekly phonic or topic work task

This will be sent out each Friday and should be returned on a Wednesday. This will always be marked and returned the following Friday.

Key Stage 1 and 2- YR 1,2,3 & 4

- Regularly share and read books. Five days out of seven days each week

Children who read regularly at home are rewarded as STAR READERS and earn an extra 10 minute play time each week. Additional incentives are added half termly for children who are regular star readers. Signed home / school reading records are used to measure involvement.

Once the children reach pocket books they will have the choice to complete a short task located on the inside cover of the book called a 'write on'. This activity will link to the book just read and will be marked by the class teacher once completed.

- Weekly, Learning Log, finding out and presenting information task

Open ended tasks will be set so that children can work at their individual level.

A weekly task will be sent out each Friday and should be returned on a Wednesday. This will always be marked and returned the following Friday, when handed in on time.

- Work marked with an orange highlighter is called **ORANGE GLOW** indicating **good work**
- Work marked with a green highlighter is called **GREEN SHOOTS** indicating an area that requires further **development / growth**

Note **green shoots** is not a negative mark. It highlights what the child needs to think about in the future. Please see the new marking policy for further details.

To celebrate and share ideas each week an example of well presented home work will be put onto the school website.

Weekly tasks will be sent out each Friday and should be returned on a Wednesday. They will always be marked and returned the following Friday.

The DCSF (Department for Children, Schools and Families) suggested time allocation is about an hour a week for years 1 and 2.

The DCSF suggested time allocation is 1 hour 30 minutes a week for years 3 and 4.

Pupils with Special Needs

Reading expectations will not vary for SEN children. Reading is the corner stone skill for all future learning.

Weekly 'finding out and presenting' tasks will be open ended tasks and should be completed at a level appropriate to the individual. Some pupils with identified SEN needs may need further differentiated tasks to match their ability. An appropriate weekly task should be set for all children. Parents, teacher and SENCO should agree homework for children with IEPs.

Homework should not be seen as a way of attempting to get pupils to 'catch up' with the rest of the class. It is an expected part of school life for all children who attend Hadrian Academy.

Roles and responsibilities.

Principal

- To monitor consistency, amount, suitability and relevance of tasks given and percentage of pupils who regularly complete assignments.
- To contact any parents of children who do not complete their homework for two consecutive weeks.
- To ensure expectations are understood by parents.
- To set clear realistic timescales and timetables for completion of homework.

Class teachers:

- To set suitable, relevant homework that will help to extend and consolidate pupils' learning.
- To ensure homework is marked and referred to in class within the following week.
- To use homework in displays to emphasise its importance.
- To ensure each class in a year group has the same homework
- To monitor homework reading diaries weekly.
- To reward Star Readers

Parents

- To support their child by providing a reasonably peaceful, suitable place where homework can be done, together with an adult or alone as the pupil becomes older.
- To make sure home **weekly homework** is handed in on time.

- To look at marked work - **ORANGE GLOW** & **GREEN SHOOTS** and talk positively to their child. Green shoots must not be seen as negative marks, but guidance for future work.
- To **share regularly a book** five out of seven days and sign the home/school diary to indicate they have done so. Note - you can include grandparents, older brothers / sisters, etc, in the five occasions for sharing a book.
- To make it clear that they value homework and that it can help their son/daughters learning.
- To encourage their child and praise him/her when homework is completed satisfactorily.
- To speak to the class teacher if there is any problem or comments if there is an issue.

Review

To be reviewed every two years. The next review will be Spring 2014.