



Homework Policy

Aims

- To ensure a consistent approach to homework throughout the school.
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children have a clear understanding regarding expectations for homework.
- To ensure that teachers, parents and children are fully aware of the role they play with regard to homework.

What is the purpose of homework?

- To consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding particularly in Literacy and Maths.
- To provide opportunities for parents and children to work together.
- To allow parents to gain an understanding of what children are learning in school.
- To allow children to progress towards becoming more independent learners.

What is the role of the school?

- To provide parents with a clear policy regarding homework.
- To ensure this policy is fully and consistently followed.
- To provide support for parents with information about homework.

What is the role of the teacher?

- To plan and set a programme of homework that is appropriate to the needs of the child.
- To ensure all children understand the homework they have been given.
- To give feedback about homework.
- To be available to talk to parents and children about homework.
- To inform parents if there is a problem regarding homework.

What is the role of the parent?

- To support the child in completing homework.
- To ensure the child completes homework to a high standard and hands it in on time.
- To provide the appropriate conditions for the child to complete the homework.
- To provide the appropriate resources for the child to complete the homework.

What is the role of the child?

- To ensure they have everything they need to complete homework each week.
- To make sure they understand the tasks that have been set.
- To put in the same level of effort as would be expected of class work.
- To hand the homework in on time.
- To take on board any feedback about homework.

What type of work will my child get?

Reading

Children will bring home a reading book from school each week. In addition to this they may also bring books from the school or Mobile Library. Years 3 and 4 reading homework will be from our Bug Club reading scheme, which your child can also access online (each child has their own log-in). Children in Years 5 and 6 are likely to bring back age appropriate 'real' reading books as their skills and ability are at an independent level but will also be expected to access and use Bug Club online resources.

They may read to an adult, with an adult or read to themselves in the presence of an adult. The story and characters should be talked about and new words discussed. Older children need a clear understanding of the story that sometimes will go beyond the literal meaning of the text. Children will read texts that are more detailed and will take longer to read. They should be encouraged to read all types of texts including non-fiction. Children are responsible for filling in their reading journal and making sure it is in school. Any book they read, whether from school or home can be entered in their journal.

Maths

This will also be based around what the children will be learning in class. Children will be set homework covering the strands taught in lessons. Online activities will also be set for children to access online at home. These feature game style activities based on revising what they

have learnt in class. They are differentiated and can be set based on an individual's ability. Children across the whole school have access to Times Table Rockstars at home. Children should be practising times tables regularly to develop mathematical fluency.

Talk Homework

Work could be linked to any other curriculum area such as Science, Geography or History. It could take many forms including preparing a talk, completing a piece of research, conducting an interview or designing and making something. The nature of this work may be more open ended than in other areas.

This is a sharing experience between adult and child, a time for parents to 'talk' to and work together on a project with their children.

Homework Online

There are a host of fun and engaging activities that can be done through the school website or online. Children have their own log-in for Google Classroom, Purple Mash, Bug Club , Monster Phonics e-books, and TT Rockstars, which have a range of activities in a variety of subject areas. Teachers may direct children to particular activities or may allow them to have an independent choice of what they select. For more information please see the Remote Learning policy.

How much time should be spent on homework?

At Palfrey Junior School we do recognise the importance of family time and other commitments children may have outside school. Timings are not rigid, but below are some general recommendations.

Year 3 and 4	15 minutes reading, 5x per week. 2 x 15 minute tasks in Numeracy or another curriculum area.
Year 5 and 6	20 – 30 minutes reading 5 x per week 1 x 30 minutes tasks in Numeracy or another curriculum area.

How can parents find out more information about homework?

Talk Homework activities are recorded in the children's Talk Homework books. If parents need advice on how to support their children with homework then they can talk to the class teacher or a Teaching Assistant. Parents can also contact school via email on support@palfrey-j.walsall.sch.uk or message on Google Classroom.

Why will children sometimes be given extra homework?

Children who take part in specialised lessons such as Booster classes may sometimes be set extra homework to reinforce the work being done.

Additionally children who work in a one to one situation with teaching assistants will sometimes be given extra homework.

In both cases, children should complete this work alongside their normal homework unless the child or the parents have been told otherwise.

Any additional tasks will be small and not set on a regular basis. If a child is finding they have too much work then parents should speak to the child's teacher or the person running the extra sessions.

What about children who don't complete homework?

The expectation is that children will complete homework. If there are any problems with children not completing homework then the teacher will speak to parents to find out why. There may be occasions when a child can complete homework in school.

What if a child says they have received no homework?

Homework days may not always be the same each week as the work may be linked to lessons that have not yet been taught. Reading and times table practice are valuable homework activities that can be done without any extra direction if no other work has been set that day.

How will the homework be marked?

Homework will be acknowledged in a variety of ways. Generally the work will be ticked to show that it has been read. On some occasions it may be marked altogether in class. Sometimes feedback about the work will be given orally and there will not be evidence from the teacher in the child's book. Work will generally not be marked if it is handed in late.

November 2024
Review 2027 or sooner should changes occur.