

LITTLE KINGSHILL COMBINED SCHOOL

Homework Policy



**Issued: November 2017
Next Review: November 2018**

Aims of the policy

It is intended that this policy will provide clear guidance for the setting of homework. It has been produced in collaboration with the teaching staff, pupils, governors and parents.

The document is to be reviewed annually by teaching staff following consultation with parents, pupils and the governing body.

Rationale for setting homework

We believe that an enjoyable, organised homework programme helps children acquire the skills and self-motivation that will help them become life-long, independent learners.

We acknowledge the important role homework plays in developing home/school links, giving parents an insight into the curriculum and promoting family learning. We will endeavour to provide opportunities for parents to enjoy learning and working with their child at home.

Our good practice

- Homework activities relate directly to the curriculum and inform future lessons.
- Homework activities that are practical should be shared, discussed and completed with others at home (parents, carers etc.)
- Homework will be set regularly. Teachers will notify parents of the set and hand-in days for homework.
- Homework can be discussed and undertaken in any language.
- Homework will be differentiated to the needs of the child where appropriate.
- The homework policy will be reviewed annually.
- Parents will be informed of homework tasks via the weekly letter from each class teacher.
- In the Foundation Stage and in Key Stage 1, feedback relating to homework will usually be given verbally to parents when necessary.
- Homework tasks will not ordinarily be set for completion over a holiday or half term.
- Pupils will usually be given more than one night to complete homework so, if they have a difficulty, they can discuss it with the teacher before the homework is to be handed in.
- Pupils will be rewarded for effort and attainment in relation to their homework.
- In Key Stage 2, a sanction is put in place should the child not complete three homework tasks on time within any half-termly period.
- If homework is still not completed on repeated occasions, parents will be notified (either verbally in the form of a standard letter) of the effect this is having on home/school links and its importance in a child's learning development. However, it is acknowledged that motivation to complete homework tasks will increase if completed in collaboration with a parent and if the homework task itself is interesting, challenging and practical.

Suggested Time and Frequency of Set Tasks

Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1	1 hour per week
Years 3 and 4	1.5 hours per week approx.
Years 5 and 6	2.5 hours per week approx.

(Homework – Guidelines for Primary and Secondary Schools 1998 [DfES])

Homework is introduced in the Early Years Foundation Stage and develops through the school as below:

Reception

- Reading
- Optional Home Learning Journal

Year 1

- Reading
- Letter formation (where appropriate)
- English activity (from Spring term)
- Maths activity (from Spring term)

Year 2

- Reading
- Weekly spellings list and sentence activity based on this
- Weekly Maths activity

Year 3

- Other subject based tasks occasional
- Reading
- Weekly spellings list and sentence activity based on this
- Weekly Maths task and multiplication tables task
- Weekly English

Year 4

- Reading
- Weekly spellings list and sentence activity based on this
- Weekly Maths task and multiplication tables task
- Weekly English task
- Occasional Science/ Humanities/Art task

Year 5

- Reading
- Weekly spellings list and sentence activity based on this
- Weekly Maths task
- Weekly English task
- Weekly topic-based task

Year 6

- Reading
- Weekly spellings list and sentence activity based on this
- Weekly Maths activity
- Weekly Geography/History task
- Weekly English task
- Weekly Science task

There is a recommended amount of time for children to be working with parents to complete a set task. There will be occasions when homework tasks might be less or more than these guidelines.

To assist parents, all class teachers provide a timetable of homework tasks at the beginning of each new term to indicate the curriculum areas which will be covered by homework on particular days.

Parents can expect some tasks to be set weekly. Should teachers set a task to be completed over a longer period, the suggested weekly times still apply.

Teachers will issue feedback on all homework tasks where appropriate.