

Airy Hill Community Primary School

Homework policy

Document Status			
Date of Next Review	Jan 2018	Responsibility	School Improvement Com
Success Criteria for review completion		Responsibility	(Chair)
Date of Policy Creation	Adapted school written model	Responsibility	Chair of Sch Imp Com
Date of Policy Adoption by Governing Body Jan 2016	Signed		
Method of Communication (e.g Website, Noticeboard, etc)			

Homework Policy

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Homework is anything children do outside the normal school day that contributes to their learning, in response to guidance from the school. Homework encompasses a whole variety of activities instigated by teachers and parents to support the children's learning. For example, parents who spend time reading stories to their children before bedtime are helping with homework.
- 1.2 Homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment. However, we also acknowledge the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development. While homework is important, it should not prevent children from taking part in the activities of various out-of-school clubs and of other organisations that play an important part in the lives of our pupils. We are well aware that children spend more time at home than at school, and we believe they develop their interests and skills to the full only when parents encourage them to make maximum use of the opportunities available outside school.

2 Aims and objectives

- 2.1 The aims and objectives of homework are:
- to enable pupils to make maximum progress in their academic and social development;
 - to help pupils develop the skills of an independent learner;
 - to promote cooperation between home and school in supporting each child's learning;

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- to consolidate and reinforce the learning done in school, and to allow children to practice skills taught in lessons;
- to help children develop good work habits for the future.

3 Types and amount of homework

3.1 In the Foundation Stage and Year 1 and Year 2 we expect children to spend about an hour per week doing homework. This may be daily reading with a parent, learning spellings or key words or learning mental maths key facts. It may also include research for work to be done at school or individual tasks at the teacher's discretion.

3.2 In Year 3 and Year 4 we expect children to spend about 20 minutes per day on home work activities. This includes reading (either independently or with a parent), learning spellings and learning mental maths key facts. It may also include research for work to be done at school or individual tasks at the teacher's discretion.

3.3 In Year 5 and Year 6 we expect children to spend about 30 minutes per day on home work activities. This includes reading (either independently or with a parent), learning spellings and learning mental maths key facts. It may also include research for work to be done at school or individual tasks at the teacher's discretion.

This is in line with the DfES guidelines that were issued in 1998.

4 Inclusion and homework

4.1 We set homework for all children as a normal part of school life. We ensure that all tasks set are appropriate to the ability of the child, and we endeavour to adapt any task set so that all children can contribute in a positive way. We value and celebrate the cultural diversity of our pupils and their families, and we appreciate the enrichment that this brings.

5 The role of parents

5.1 Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of this process. We ask parents to encourage their child to complete the homework tasks that are set. We invite them to help their children as and when they feel it to be necessary and to provide them with the sort of environment that allows children to do their best. Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home, by enabling their child to visit the library regularly, and by discussing the work that their child is doing.

5.2 If parents have any questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. If their questions are of a more general nature, they should contact the head teacher. Finally, if they wish to

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make a complaint about the school homework policy, or the way it is implemented; parents should contact the governing body.

6 Monitoring and review

- 6.1** It is the responsibility of our governing body to agree and then monitor the school homework policy. This is done by the committee of the governing body that deals with curriculum issues.
- 6.2** This policy will be reviewed in three years, or earlier if necessary.