

Statutory/HCC Recommended	Developed by:	Approved by:	Date Approved/Reviewed	Next review date:
School	DHT	DHT/ HT	Sept 2017	Sep 2018

## Fairfields Primary School Homework Policy

### Aims

Fairfields aims to foster a partnership between home and school in order to help all pupils achieve high standards in education and their personal best in all aspects of learning. Engagement in learning at home is key to successful homework tasks being completed. As a result, we aim to make learning fun in order to motivate the pupils to try their best and become engaged and excited about their learning.

The homework the school sets helps parents to understand the content of the curriculum and the standard of learning expected.

Teachers set challenging homework as appropriate for the age and stage of pupils. The homework consolidates learning and deepens understanding, and prepares pupils very well for the work to come.

### Reading homework

- At Fairfields Primary School, we promote reading for pleasure.
- Children will be able to access the school library on a weekly basis to loan books. They will be encouraged to take these books home to share with their families. Children need to bring these books into school each week to be able to exchange them, or re-issue them, in the school library.
- Children will also take a book home from the classroom which will be pitched at the level correct for their current reading age. This book can be changed as often as needed by the pupil and they must bring it to school to exchange it with their teacher when they are ready to do so.
- Children will be encouraged to read for 20 minutes each day at home, either independently or reading to/with an adult. On occasions, it might be that they listen to a book being read to them by an adult instead.
- Reading at home can consist of reading their library books and classroom books, but also reading other texts including newspapers, magazines, extracts from books, and reading from the internet, for example.
- Parents will be encouraged to sign their child's reading journal before it is handed in each week and to comment in it as appropriate in order for the school to praise children for their learning at home, with teachers awarding a house point each week for at least 3 evenings of reading in that week.

- Reading questions will not be sent home each week but an example of possible questions you could ask your child to help with their reading will be sent to parents each school year to help parents to support their children further.

### **Spelling**

- In F.S. and year 1, children will take home sounds to learn at home each week (and spellings when appropriate).
- From year 2, children each week will take home 5 spellings to learn at home each week.
- Children will be taught strategies in school to help them to learn their spellings.
- Spelling homework will link to work in class where appropriate, and children will be taught how to use the spellings in context as appropriate through their lessons each week.
- Spelling homework will be shared with parents so that they can help to support their child at home.
- Children will be tested each week in school on the spellings they have learnt at home and their spelling score will be recorded in their homework journal.
- Children can practise spellings on the next page in their homework journals if they would like to.

### **Mathematics**

- An interactive maths game will be given to the children each week, via the Abacus programme, which each child will have a personal login to access. This game will link to their learning in the classroom and will be pitched at an appropriate level to consolidate work from that week in school.
- The class teacher will be able to log on to Abacus to see how each child in the class has got on, and reward a house point to children for having a go at the homework activity each week.
- Year 5 and 6 will also use 'Mathletics' to improve their mental maths skills on occasions.

### **Topic Homework**

- Children will receive topic homework at the start of each half term.
- Topic homework will comprise of a choice of activities for the children to complete, which will reflect different learning styles.
- Children can complete as many activities as they wish to, and in any order that they want to complete them in.

- Teachers will request for topic homework to be handed in on a set day at the end of each half term. On that day the children will bring in any topic homework completed to display in a 'gallery' in their classrooms for the other children and the adults in school to come and see.
- Children will be rewarded with house points for the quality and quantity of topic homework completed. Up to 10 house points in total will be awarded for any topic homework at the end of each half term to each child.
- At the end of that day, topic homework will be sent home.

#### **Additional homework**

- There may be occasions where children are given additional homework to support certain aspects of the school curriculum, or to address individual children's needs.

#### **Organisation**

- Homework will be communicated to parents each week through the children's homework journal.
- All homework for all children across the school will be sent out on a Friday and will be due in the following Wednesday.
- Children will receive feedback each week on their homework through their homework journal. This may be in the form of a teacher comment, house points, or both.