

NENE VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Homework Policy

This policy is intended to ensure that:

- children benefit from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school
- homework is seen as a way of establishing a successful dialogue between teachers and parents
- children develop as independent learners
- homework plays a positive role in raising a child's level of attainment
- the important role of play and free time in a child's growth and development is not forgotten and that it should not prevent children from taking part in the wide range of out-of-school clubs and organisations
- children make maximum progress in their academic and social development
- children consolidate and reinforce learning done in school, allowing children to practise skills taught in lessons;
- children develop good work habits for the future.

Homework should enhance learning through:

- the practice of basic skills by rote learning, such as memorising spellings and times tables for tests in school
- enabling cross curricular learning to take place in a fun and creative way
- the use of open ended Learning Log activities related to Numeracy, Literacy and Science/Topic objectives, as appropriate to different age groups
- coordinated communication between the pupil, parent and teacher
- enabling children of all abilities and backgrounds to demonstrate their learning at their own level

The effectiveness of this policy will be monitored by:

- regular reviews by Teachers, Key Stage and Subject Leaders of the quality of homework set
- regular reviews by Teachers, Key Stage and Subject Leaders of the quantity and quality of homework completed
- regular surveys of the views of parents, pupils and staff
- discussion and review at Governing Body meetings in line with the school policy review cycle

A Guide for parents is provided in Appendix A.

REVIEWED: Spring 2008

TO BE REVIEWED: Spring 2011

NENE VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Homework Policy

APPENDIX A: HOMEWORK POLICY - A GUIDE FOR PARENTS

Parents have a vital role to play in their child's education, and homework is an important part of that role. At all stages, if a child shows particular enthusiasm for some aspect of schoolwork, then we hope that parents will encourage such enthusiasm in appropriate ways at home, e.g. using a website for research.

We feel that children benefit from participation in extra-curricular activities that encourage a breadth of experience for the child, e.g. swimming, soccer or instrumental tuition.

At Reception stage and Key Stage 1 in particular, we feel that children benefit from imaginative, creative play activities with other children, to encourage the development of social skills.

We ask parents to ensure that their child completes homework on time, in order to encourage a sense of responsibility from an early age.

If a teacher considers that a child has not completed work within a reasonable time at school, the child may be expected to finish the work at home, to be returned the following day.

Parents can support their child by providing a good working space at home and by discussing the work that their child is doing.

Special provision may be made for homework in relation to children's individual needs, e.g. handwriting practice.

Parents are reminded that they can discuss individual arrangements for homework with their child's class teacher, if they wish to do so. If parents have any problems or questions about homework, they should, in the first instance, contact the child's class teacher. We also welcome regular comments from parents.

Parents 'at-a-glance typical week' guide to homework at Nene Valley Primary School (Actual activities may vary)

| | Reception | Years 1 and 2 | Years 3 and 4 | Years 5 and 6 |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Literacy | Daily reading activities, e.g. sharing books, phonics. | Daily reading Weekly spellings | Daily reading Weekly spellings Weekly Learning Log objective | Daily reading Weekly spellings Weekly Learning Log objective |
| Numeracy | Counting or Activity sheets | Y1 - verbal activities Y2 - Weekly Learning log objective | Weekly Times Tables Weekly Learning Log objective | Weekly Times Tables Weekly Learning Log objective |
| Other work | Letter formation | Weekly Learning Log Objective, gradually introduced in the year. | Weekly Learning Log Objectives (topic/science) | Weekly Learning Log Objectives (topic/science) SATS revision |
| Approx. daily total time | 10 minutes | 15 minutes | 20 minutes | 30 minutes |