



COURTNEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning together we can achieve great things

Homework Policy

Courtney Primary School

Date Reviewed: September 2016

Reviewed By: Deborah Wood (after consultation with teachers)

Position: Headteacher

Review Date: September 2017

What is the purpose of homework?

- To consolidate, reinforce and extend skills and understanding, particularly in English and Mathematics.
- 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 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 on homework.
- To be available to talk to parents/carers and children about homework.
- To inform parents/carers if there is a problem regarding homework.

What is the role of the parent /carer?

- 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.

Home learning across the school is given out every Friday and collected in every Wednesday.

As the children progress through the school the type of homework they receive will alter and the quantity will increase.

Reception:

The children are expected to read with an adult at least 5x a week. To start with, this may simply be sharing books or the adult doing the reading with the child answering questions. There is a Reading Record for adults to fill in.

The children will have the sounds they have learned in school to practise at home. They will also have 'tricky' words to practise.

There will usually be one other piece of homework which will normally be an English, Mathematics or topic-based task to try with your child.

Year 1:

The children are expected to read with an adult at least 5x a week. There is a Reading Record for adults to fill in.

The homework is normally an English, Mathematics or topic-based task to try with your child.

The children will regularly be given spellings and number bonds to practise.

Year 2:

The children are expected to read with an adult at least 5x a week. There is a Reading Record for adults to fill in.

The homework is normally either an English, Mathematics or topic-based task to try with your child.

The children will regularly be given spellings and number bonds/ multiplication facts to practise.

Years 3 – Year 4:

The children are expected to read with an adult at least 5x a week. There is a Reading Record for adults to fill in. As each child becomes increasingly fluent and reading more complex books, the emphasis may change to asking questions sometimes and hearing the reading aloud less often.

The homework will normally be either an English, Mathematics or topic-based task to try with your child.

The children will regularly be given spellings and multiplication/division facts to practise.

From time to time, the teacher may give children project homework over a term e.g. making a Roman helmet, a spaceship etc.

Year 5 – Year 6

The children are expected to read with an adult at least 5x a week. There is a Reading Record for adults to fill in. As each child becomes increasingly fluent and reading more complex books, the emphasis may change to asking questions sometimes and hearing the reading aloud less often.

The homework will normally be two pieces of work from the English, Mathematics or topic programmes of study.

The children will regularly be given spellings and multiplication/division facts to practise.

From time to time, the teacher may give children project homework over a term e.g. making a Roman helmet, a spaceship etc.

Am I expected to complete homework with my child during holiday time?

We appreciate that modern life is very hectic for families and have made sure that our Homework Policy allows quality 'together time' and does not add pressure especially for those going away.

As such, at Courtney, we do not give homework during the school holidays but encourage children to contribute to their class' Sparkling Starts display which is added to during the first couple of weeks back. The reason behind it, is that it allows the children to become more active learners and take greater ownership of their learning. A few days before the end of each term, the teachers will put up their topic question for the following term and ask the children to find a way to contribute to it. This may be a story, a piece of research, information from a visit somewhere, a photograph or a drawing. Some examples for a recent Romans topic included a model of underfloor heating, a toga, a photograph of a visit to the Roman Baths and a clay model of a lamp.

Even if you choose not to complete a Sparkling Start, we do, however, ask that you carry on reading 5x a week even during holiday time.

Other frequently asked questions

Do the children have a list of spellings to learn?

English homework may be given in the form of spellings to learn or activities which support the learning of spelling patterns. A spelling test will either be on the spelling patterns or on words set out in the National Curriculum which they are expected to be able to spell.

Will the work be marked?

Teachers will always give feedback on home learning and will keep a record of children who completed tasks. However, the marking won't be as in depth as the work in school simply because the teachers have a lot of demands on their time. The marking should convey to the children that their efforts are appreciated.

Do I need to write anything?

Adults are encouraged to indicate in their child's book, if the work was too easy, a struggle etc

What if we find it too difficult to find a suitable work space at home?

We acknowledge that some children may need a quiet space at school to complete homework. For this reason, we provide a Homework Club.