



Westgarth Primary School Homework Policy



Aim

At Westgarth Primary School we believe the right homework can support pupils' education by extending learning outside the classroom, whilst allowing parents and carers to gain a valuable insight into their children's academic lives. For pupils, knowledge and skills are more secure and their chances of academic success higher, plus they gain valuable study skills for later life.

Purpose of Homework

At Westgarth, we aim to:

- Give pupils the opportunity to extend their learning in areas of personal interest
- Encourage children to develop the confidence, independence, self-discipline and motivation needed to study on their own and to prepare them for the next phase of education
- Prepare Year 6 pupils for the transfer to secondary school.
- Set homework that is relevant and meaningful for the child, linked to work undertaken at school
- Consolidate and reinforce key skills and understanding
- Provide opportunities for parents and children to work together, thereby fostering an effective partnership between home and school

Principles

- The amount and difficulty of homework is tailored according to the child's age and ability
- Sufficient time is allowed for the completion of homework to allow for a healthy home/school work balance
- As the children progress through the school the amount of homework will increase
- Teachers ensure that the tasks are differentiated, purposeful and aimed at developing and consolidating basic skills
- Homework should be linked to previous learning and key skills and must be meaningful and relevant
- Homework will not necessarily come in the form of a written task.
- Parents will be informed about our aims in setting homework and about the importance this type of work plays in children's education

Homework Activities

In addition to daily reading and weekly spellings, we provide a range of engaging activities designed to build upon the concepts and skills that pupils have been learning across a range of subjects.

Early Years Foundation Stage

In Nursery and Reception, parents and carers are encouraged to read and share stories with their child and to look at the topic maps published on the school's website so that they are able to take an active interest in their child's learning in school. Daily reading is also recommended for children in Reception.

Other tasks may include

- the practising and revising of basic skills (phonics, key words, letter formation, number recognition);
- research for particular interests or topics;

Key Stage 1

Daily reading is recommended for children in Key Stage 1 and should be included as part of homework. Parents and carers are encouraged to look at the topic maps published on the school's website so that they are able to take an active interest in their child's learning in school.

Homework tasks may include:

- reading at home with an adult;
- the practising and reinforcement of basic skills (phonics, maths activities, grammar work, literacy activities);
- comprehension tasks to support reading ("reading buddy", written comprehension activities, Read Write Inc, reading conversation prompts);
- research for particular topics.

Key Stage 2

Daily reading is recommended for children in Key Stage 2 and should be included as part of homework. Parents and carers are encouraged to look at the topic maps published on the school's website so that they are able to take an active interest in their child's learning in school.

Homework tasks may include:

- reading at home with an adult;

- the practising and reinforcement of basic skills (multiplication tables and other maths activities , grammar work, literacy activities, reading comprehension);
- maths and spelling frame tasks ;
- research for particular interests or topics;
- "purplemash" activities;
- follow up work.

The amount and range of homework will increase throughout Year 6 to support pupils with their preparation for SATs and secondary school.

It is vital that parents make it clear to the children that they value homework and support the school. However, homework should not be a cause of conflict at home and parents/carers should consult with staff if they have any concerns.

May 2019

Reviewed: Summer 2021