

Acacia Nursery School

Homework Policy

Background

At Acacia Nursery School, we believe that homework is vital to children's progress. On entry to school, all children and parents sign a pre-school agreement in which roles and responsibilities are outlined. Within this agreement are references to children completing homework as well as the parental responsibility to both ensure that homework is completed and that necessary help and support is provided at home. Homework tasks are set for pupils at our school with the purpose of supporting the ongoing progress and achievements for all pupils.

Aims

We view the purpose of homework as:

- developing an effective and supportive partnership between the school, parents and community in realising the aims of the school;
- consolidating and reinforcing skills and understanding, particularly in literacy and numeracy;
- exploring resources for learning in the home environment;
- extending and complementing school work and supporting independent study skills, and
- developing pupils' skills of organisation and self-discipline and preparing pupils for the demands of their future studies

Foundation Stage Homework

In Nursery, homework is about parents talking to their children about:

- The things they do during the day;
- The work they bring home;
- Reading books;
- Phonics practice;
- Key words to learn, and
- Investigating topics.

Requirements of the Teacher

- homework is planned to support the pupils' learning needs;
- homework challenges but does not defeat the pupil;
- homework is given, marked and discussed consistently;
- teachers apply the same high expectations to homework as class work;
- appropriate resources are available if required;
- pupils have the opportunity to complete a variety of good quality tasks, and
- teachers should liaise with parents where necessary

All homework should be marked in accordance with the school's Marking Policy.

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Allocation of time

- Homework goes out on agreed day that includes the weekend across the school.
- Foundation Stage homework should reflect the essentials taught in the early years.
- A high dominance of basic number facts and phonics should be present to ensure, upon entry to a more formal curriculum, the children are equipped with the basics.

Special Educational Needs

Homework should be set for pupils with SEN to provide the right of pupils to share fully in the work of the class, whilst considering individual learning needs. Homework tasks need to be clearly differentiated according to needs and should show some correlation to targets set within the pupil's IEP. The purpose of homework remains the same for SEN pupils as with any pupil, in that it should support the ongoing learning needs of the child.

Guidance on appropriate homework for SEN pupils can be sought from the SENCO and the Phase Leaders will liaise with the SENCO when monitoring homework.

Monitoring and Evaluation

To judge the value and effectiveness of the school's homework policy, the Phase Leaders will:

- monitor all homework termly;
- judge the quality and relevance of set tasks;
- judge the quality of presentation;
- examine consistency and parity between year groups and as a phase;
- examine consistency and quality of marking in accordance with the school Marking Policy;
- feedback finding to phase members, as well as
- inform SLT of the need of future developments.

To judge the effectiveness of the school's Homework Policy, the Executive Headteacher and Senior Teachers will monitor and evaluate:

- the quality of work and presentation;
- the relevance of tasks;
- the consistency of approach to tasks across the school;

In addition the Executive Headteacher and Senior Teachers will:

- review the homework policy annually,
- support teachers in the implementation of this policy, and
- ensure home school support through the use of the Home/ School Agreement.



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School- Based In-service and Parent Support

The school will offer parents training opportunities through regular coffee mornings. To support the importance of homework, the school will refer to its value in documentation. The school will be aware of up-to-date educational initiatives concerning homework. The school will continue to hold high expectations and encourage parents to support their child's learning at home.

Resourcing

In the main, the tasks set for homework will not require pupils to use resources that they cannot access from school or home, e.g. pens, paper, pencils and homework books. When homework tasks do require research skills, teachers will need to provide pupils with the appropriate resource (books from the school library or suggest where information can be found both within the local community and the Internet) for the pupil to complete their work.

The quality of resources provided for homework should be of a high standard.

This policy will be evaluated and reviewed regularly.

Signed:

Dated:

4th May 2018

Chair of Acacia Governing Body

Date of review: May 2019